Daily Report

Near East & South Asia

FBIS-NES-94-219
Monday
14 November 1994

This report may contain copyrighted material. Copying and dissemination is prohibited without permission of the copyright owners.

Daily Report
Near East & South Asia

FBIS-NES-94-219 *14 November 1994*

CONTENTS

NOTICE TO READERS: An * indicates material not disseminated in electronic form.

INTERNATIONAL AFFAIRS

Arab-Israeli Talks

Security, Disarmament Delegates Conclude Seminar 1
Jordan's Tuqan on Agreements Reached *[AFP]* 1
Further on Tuqan Remarks *[Amman TV]* 1
Israeli Delegate on 'Goodwill' at Talks *[Jerusalem Radio]* 1
Palestinian-Israeli Committee on Netzarim Attack *[Jerusalem TV]* 2
PLO's Quray' Meets Israel's Shohat in Jerusalem *[Jericho VOP]* 2
Quray' on Meeting, Economic Demands *[Jerusalem Radio]* 2
Beirut 'Sources' on Possible Syrian Track Solution *[London AL-HAYAH 10 Nov]* 2

Inter-Arab Affairs

Arab League Chief: Iraqi Decision 'Not Enough' *[MENA]* 3
'Abd-al-Majid on Kuwait, Israel Boycott *[Paris Radio Monte Carlo]* 3
Arab League Chief Affirms Support for Libya *[JANA]* 4
Arab Maghreb Union Holds 30th Session in Algiers 4
Committee Begins Preparatory Meeting *[Algiers Radio]* 4
Ministers Arrive; Musa Comments *[Algiers Radio]* 5
Musa Addresses Meeting *[Cairo Radio]* 5
Musa Seeks Egypt's Membership *[Algiers Radio]* 5
AMU Chairman Ends Algiers Meeting *[Algiers Radio]* 6
AMU Satisfied With Iraqi Decision *[Algiers Radio]* 6
Libya Backs Egypt; Lockerbie Case *[MENA]* 6

Palestinian Affairs

Reportage on Netzarim Explosion, Comments, Reactions 7
VOP Gives Report, Casualties *[Jericho VOP]* 7
Al-Husayni Comments on Attack *[Tel Aviv Radio]* 7
Security Head Condemns Attack *[Tel Aviv Radio]* 7
Islamic Jihad To Continue Attacks *[Tel Aviv Radio]* 8
Jihad Spokesman Gives Statement *[Tehran International]* 8
Islamic Jihad Identifies 'Hero' *[AFP]* 8
More on Explosion *[Al-Quds Palestinian Arab Radio]* 9
'Arafat Aide Gives Warning to 'Terrorists' *[Tel Aviv Radio]* 9
Police Round Up Jihad Members *[AFP]* 9
Islamic Jihad Activists Detained *[Jerusalem Radio]* 10
Islamic Jihad: Attacks To Continue *[AFP]* 10
Islamic Jihad Spiritual Leader Detained *[Jerusalem TV]* 10
Police Arrest More Islamic Suspects *[AFP]* 10
PFLP-GC Gives Congratulations to Jihad *[Al-Quds Palestinian Arab Radio]* 11
Hamas on Attack, Terms for Cease-Fire *[Jerusalem Radio]* 11
Jihad Expresses Interest in Dialogue With PA *[Tel Aviv Radio]* 12
Hamas West Bank Leader for 'Dialogue' With Israel *[Jerusalem Radio]* 12
Hamas Warns U.S. of Retaliation *[AFP]* 12
Al-Zahhar: Hamas 'Not Prepared' for PA *[Jerusalem Radio]* 12
'Arafat: Group Meeting To Achieve National Unity *[MENA]* 13
'Arafat, Ministers Discuss Early Empowerment, Gaza *[Jericho VOP]* 13
'Arafat Meets With Ulemas, Welcomes Husayn's Remarks *[Jericho VOP]* 13

Official Views 'Arafat-Husayn Contact, Ties *[Cairo International]* 13
National Authority To Honor Agreements With Israel *[Jericho VOP]* 14
PLO Executive Committee To Hold 1st Gaza Meeting *[Jericho VOP]* 14
Committee Member on Arrangements for Gaza Meeting *[Jericho VOP]* 14
Sha'th on Dialogue With Hamas, Islamic Jihad *[MENA]* 14
Settlements Blamed for 'Tenuous' Gaza Security *[Jerusalem Radio]* 15
Security Measures Around 'Arafat Detailed *[Jerusalem News Channel 2 TV]* 15
VOP Urges 'Confidence-Building' Measures *[Jericho VOP]* 16
Palestinian Press Review on West Bank, Gaza *[AL-MANAR 3 Oct, etc.]* 16

ARAB AFRICA

Algeria

Egypt's Musa Comments After Talks With Zeroual *[Algiers TV]* 18
FLN: Presidential Election Will Worsen Crisis *[Paris International]* 18
49 'Terrorists' Killed Between 6-12 Nov *[Algiers Radio]* 18

Egypt

Musa Comments on Issues, Departs for AMU Meeting 18
Welcomes Iraqi Decision *[Cairo Radio]* 18
Views Algerian Ties, Bosnian Embargo *[Cairo Radio]* 18
Kuwaiti Foreign Minister on Damascus Declaration *[MENA]* 19
Kuwaiti Ambassador on Doubts Over Iraq's Recognition *[MENA]* 20
Efforts To Return Iraq to 'Arab Family' Viewed *[Cairo Radio]* 20
Paper Discusses Iraqi Recognition of Kuwait *[MENA]* 21
Daily on Support for Syria's Negotiating Position *[MENA]* 21
Daily Cited on U.S. Decision on Bosnia Embargo *[MENA]* 21

ARABIAN PENINSULA

Kuwaiti Prime Minister Opens GCC Council *[Kuwait Radio]* 23
Saudi Minister Opens GCC Defense Meeting *[Riyadh Radio]* 23
Kuwait To Continue Rebuilding Army *[KUNA]* 23
Defense Ministers Meeting Ends *[SPA]* 23
Saudi Minister Views Meeting Outcome *[Riyadh TV]* 24

Bahrain

Cabinet Welcomes Iraqi Recognition of Kuwait *[WAKH]* 25

Kuwait

Iraqi Recognition Described as 'Only Choice' *[AFP]* 25
Council of Ministers Assesses Iraqi Decision *[Kuwait Radio]* 25
UN Delegate Welcomes Iraq's 'Major Step' *[London MBC Television]* 26
Defense Minister Discusses Arms Deals, Iraq *[AL-WAFD 7 Nov]* 26
Collective Gulf Stance on Iraqi Decision Sought *[MENA]* 27
Kuwait Urges OPEC To Discuss Iraq's Return *[KUNA]* 27

Saudi Arabia

Government Said To Back Kuwaiti Stance on Iraq *[Riyadh TV]* 27
French Interior Minister Discusses Meetings *[SPA]* 28
Ends Visit *[SPA]* 29
Paper Views Recent U.S. Election Results *[London AL-SHARQ AL-AWSAT 11 Nov]* 29

United Arab Emirates

Paper Views Iraqi Recognition of Kuwait *[AL-BAYAN 11 Nov]* 30
U.S. Elections, Unified Arab Position Viewed *[AL-BAYAN 10 Nov]* 30

Yemen

Government Welcomes Iraqi Recognition of Kuwait *[Sanaa Radio]* 31

IRAQ

Russian Foreign Minister Andrey Kozyrev Visits 32
Meets With Saddam Husayn *[INA]* 32
Departs Baghdad *[INA]* 32
Two Bomb Explosions Reported in Baghdad Areas *[INA]* 32
One Death Reported *[Baghdad Radio]* 32
Iranian 'Antirevolutionary' Leaders Said To Be Wounded *[IRNA]* 32
MKO Denies Iranian Claims of Cross-Border Attacks *[MENA]* 33
'Aziz Views Forthcoming UN Review of Embargo *[INA]* 33
Foreign Reaction to Kuwait Recognition Reviewed *[Baghdad Radio]* 33
Article: Iraq, Kuwait Part of 'Unified Territory' *[BABIL 5 Nov]* 34
Opposition Claims 3 Officers, 3 Physicians Executed *[IRNA]* 34
Paper: End of Bosnia Embargo Meant To Embarrass Russia *[INA]* 35
Kurdish Radio Questions Recognition of Kuwait *[People of Kurdistan]* 35
Kurd Spokesmen Urge Initiatives To 'Finish' Saddam *[London THE GUARDIAN 11 Nov]* 35

ISRAEL

King Husayn, Rabin Exchange Ratification Documents 37
King Husayn Delivers Address *[Amman TV]* 37
Rabin Gives Speech *[Jerusalem Radio]* 37
King Husayn-Rabin Meeting Detailed *[Amman TV]* 38
King Husayn, Rabin Hold News Conference *[Jerusalem New Channel 2 TV]* 38
King Husayn 'Satisfied' With Talks *[Jerusalem International]* 39
'Suicide Bicyclist' Sets Off Explosives Near Gaza 39
Three Killed; 12 Wounded *[Jerusalem Radio]* 39
Islamic Jihad Member Said Responsible *[Tel Aviv Radio]* 39
Rabin Criticizes Netzarim Settlement *[Jerusalem Radio]* 39
Opposition, Coalition Figures React *[Jerusalem Radio]* 40
Peres Rejects 'Seige' on Gaza *[Jerusalem Radio]* 40
Likud MK's, Minister Sne React *[Jerusalem Radio]* 41
Sarid: Netzarim Decision Cannot Be Delayed *[Jerusalem Radio]* 41
'Arafat Urged To Disarm Hamas, Islamic Jihad *[Jerusalem Radio]* 41
Peres: 'No Problem' Acting Against Activists *[Jerusalem Radio]* 42
General Vows To Strike at Hizballah *[Voice of the South]* 42
Foreign Ministry Paper Terms Clinton 'Lame Duck' *[HA'ARETZ 11 Nov]* 42

JORDAN

King Husayn, Delegation Return From Israel *[Amman TV]* 44
Al-'Anani on Post-Peace Treaty Measures *[Amman TV]* 44
Al-Majali Receives Palestinian Security Commander *[Amman TV]* 45
Husayn-'Arafat Summit Expected in 'Very Near Future' *[AL-DUSTUR 11 Nov]* 45
Opposition Expands After Treaty With 'Enemy' *[AL-MAJD 14 Nov]* 46
First Groups of Israeli Tourists Arrive on Tour *[AL-MAJD 14 Nov]* 46

LEBANON

Al-Hirawi: Peace Should Be in Return for Land *[Beirut Radio]* 47
Al-Hirawi on Palestinian Refugee Issue *[Beirut Radio]* 47
Al-Hirawi, Sources Cited on Clinton's 'Defeat' *[Tehran International]* 48
Lahd Attends Ceremony Held for Gen Mordekhay *[Voice of the South]* 48
Fatah Member Killed Outside Home in 'Ayn al-Hulwah *[Beirut Radio]* 49
Hizballah Leader Hails Bombing, Praises Student *[AFP]* 49

Hizballah Radio Assails Reopening of Marines Case *[Voice of the Oppressed]* 49
Hizballah Leader on Warrants *[VOL]* 49
More Reject Reopening of Case *[Voice of the Oppressed]* 50
Amal Claims Attack on SLA Position *[VOL]* 50
Islamic Resistance Said Responsibile for SLA Deaths *[Voice of the Oppressed]* 50
Nasrallah Threatens SLA With 'Death Sentence' *[MENA]* 50
Three SLA Members Wounded; Amal Claims Attack *[VOL]* 51
SLA Units Clash With 'Resistance,' Advance North *[RFL]* 51
'Terrorist' Group Discovered, Shelled *[Voice of the South]* 51
IAF Strafes 'Terrorist' Targets in South *[Jerusalem Radio]* 51
Palestinian Islamic Jihad Envoy Warns More Attacks *[Voice of the Oppressed]* 51

SYRIA

Radio Reports Islamic Jihad Operation, Reactions *[Damascus Radio]* 52
Paper: Explosions Show Accords 'Have No Future' *[Damascus Radio]* 52
Jordanian-Israeli Treaty Ratification Reported *[Damascus TV]* 53
Al-Asad Notes Peace 'Struggle' in Speech *[Damascus Radio]* 54

SOUTH ASIA

Afghanistan

Government Positions Destroyed by Artillery Fire *[Message of Freedom]* 55
Hekmatyar's Attack East of Kabul Repulsed *[Kabul Radio]* 55
UN Sources: Groups Agree on Transitional Setup *[Islamabad TV]* 55
More on UN Peace Plan *[IRNA]* 55
Rabbani Gives Speech on Agricultural Problems *[Kabul Radio]* 56

Iran

Official: Bombing in Iraq 'Deterrent Measure' *[IRNA]* 57
Editorial Discusses Attack on MKO Bases *[TEHRAN TIMES 7 Nov]* 57
Clandestine Radio Views Regime's 'Helplessness' *[Voice of Mojahed]* 58
Radio Reports Reactions to Iranian Air Attack *[Voice of Iranian Kordestan]* 58
State Department Report Seen as MKO 'Setback' *[TEHRAN TIMES]* 59
U.S. Warship 'Chased Away' After 'Harassment' *[AFP]* 60
Editorials Comment on U.S. Election Results *[IRNA]* 60
Domestic 'Pressure' Linked to U.S. Move on B-H *[Tehran Radio]* 61
Envoy, Kuwaiti Ministers Discuss Cooperation *[IRNA]* 61
Spokesman Discusses Bosnia, Tajikistan, Turkey *[IRNA]* 62
Commentary: 'No Excuse' for Sanctions on Iraq *[Tehran Radio]* 62
President Visits Bakhtaran, Views Iraq Relations *[IRNA]* 63
Jannati Delivers Friday Prayer Sermons 63
First Sermon *[Tehran Radio]* 63
Second Sermon *[Tehran Radio]* 65

Sri Lanka

Chandrika Kumaratunga Sworn In as New President 67
To Appoint Mother as Prime Minister *[Colombo International]* 67
Views Foreign Investment, Peace *[Colombo International]* 68
Appoints New Cabinet *[AFP]* 68
Bandaranaike Sworn In as Prime Minister *[Delhi Radio]* 69
Colombo Reportedly To Proceed With LTTE Talks *[Colombo International]* 69
LTTE Announces Unilateral Cease-Fire *[Delhi Radio]* 69

Arab-Israeli Talks

Security, Disarmament Delegates Conclude Seminar

Jordan's Tuqan on Agreements Reached

NC0911221394 Paris AFP in English 1931 GMT 9 Nov 94

[FBIS Transcribed Text] Amman, Nov 9 (AFP)—Security and disarmament experts agreed on measures to boost military cooperation in the Middle East including a conflict prevention centre as multilateral talks ended Wednesday [9 November].

'Abdallah Tuqan, head of the Jordanian delegation to talks, told AFP negotiators decided to meet again Thursday to arrive at a mechanism for the proposed conflict prevention and regional security centre.

Experts from 17 countries including Israel as well as a Palestinian delegation had reached agreement on several military-related issues, Tuqan added.

"We discussed in depth confidence-building measures among countries of the region, including prior notification of army exercises and joint rescue efforts in sea and on land" in the event of natural disaster, he said.

The meeting, held at a Jordanian hotel on the Dead Sea coast, also laid down a "blueprint for a future regional agreement to prevent naval accidents."

The outcome of talks among middle-ranking defence officials will be presented to a higher-level panel on December 15 in Tunis, with the participation of 30 states.

The multilateral talks, co-sponsored by the United States and Russia, are being boycotted by Syria and Lebanon.

The talks were launched at the 1991 Middle East peace conference in Madrid. Special committees are dealing with five areas: economic cooperation, water resources, the environment, arms control and refugees.

Further on Tuqan Remarks

JN1011210494 Amman Jordan Television Network in English 2000 GMT 10 Nov 94

[FBIS Transcribed Text] A regional arms control and disarmament conference concluded its three-day meetings at the Dead Sea today with recommendations to enhance chances of stability in the region.

The meeting, sponsored by the United States and Russia, was attended by 22 countries, including Gulf Arab states.

Head of Jordan's delegation, 'Abdallah Tuqan, told JTV reporter Ahmad al-Nusur that the conference adopted measures that would strengthen the peace process in the region. Fredric Axelguard of the U.S. delegation also said the conference agreed [on] steps that would help reduce the chances of conflict in the sea and on the ground.

[Begin recording] [Jordanian Chief Delegate Tuqan] The arms control, as we have earlier said, is divided into two sections: The conceptual one, which does address issues which do deal with nonproliferation, weapons of mass destruction free zones, verification methods and means. This particular basket that we are talking about now in the Dead Sea in Jordan is what we call the operational basket. It has a lot of confidence and security building measures associated with it. These are measures that, now in this time when we are in the peace process, will help strengthen the peace process, sustain it, and carry it to the future so that no misunderstandings, miscalculations would arise between any two parties, such that conflict might arise. So in a way it is like preventing any of these misunderstandings to take place. Now, the conflict prevention center that we are talking will be a forum, or we hope it will be an institute which will be a synthesis for all these measures and ideas so that we can continue projecting it into the future and after the peace treaties and agreements are signed, it will be a component to help strengthen these treaties, sustain them, manage them, maintain them into the long future ahead of us.

[U.S. Chief Delegate Axelguard] It is very important to state that concrete progress and specific proposals have been achieved in every single area of work that has been held at this meeting. A large number of countries have sent representatives here, and the combination of that wide regional scope and the specificity and the concreteness of the measures discussed is very significant. As a result of the meetings we have had here, there is a bright prospect for serious agreement to reduce chance of conflict at sea, to reduce chance of conflict on the ground, and to build a culture of common cooperation toward a comprehensive peace and security in the region. In particular, we should pay tribute to Jordan for a very important proposal which has taken deep root here, a center for conflict prevention and regional security. [end recording]

Israeli Delegate on 'Goodwill' at Talks

TA1111071494 Jerusalem Qol Yisra'el in English 0500 GMT 11 Nov 94

[FBIS Transcribed Text] The multilateral talks on arms control have concluded in Jordan with the Israelis inviting participants to visit military facilities inside Israel. This, according to the head of the Turkish delegation Suher Omer, who said Israel extended specific invitations to see defense industry installations. Omer also said that the participants came up with a list of twelve confidence building gestures, including prenotification of military exercises.

The head of the Israeli delegation, David 'Ivri, said there was a lot of goodwill at the talks, even among the Gulf

This report may contain copyrighted material. Copying and dissemination is prohibited without permission of the copyright owners.

participants, whom he described as more hesitant in earlier talks. Military experts from 22 countries attended the latest round of talks.

Palestinian-Israeli Committee on Netzarim Attack

TA1211200094 Jerusalem Israel Television Channel 1 Network in Hebrew 1800 GMT 12 Nov 94

[Announcer-read report]

[FBIS Translated Text] At the talks held by the Palestinian-Israeli military committee in the wake of yesterday's attack at Netzarim, the two sides decided to set up two more roadblocks to guard the outpost at Netzarim. Our correspondent Shlomi Eldar reports that Israel wanted the Palestinians to build additional roads to separate Israeli and Palestinian traffic on the Netzarim road, but the Palestinians replied that such a move requires 'Arafat's approval.

[An announcer-read report on Jerusalem New Channel 2 Television in Hebrew at 1800 GMT on 12 November adds that in the military committee's discussions, "Israel demanded that overpasses and bypasses be built at the Netzarim, Kissufim, and Morag junctions in a bid to separate Arab and Jewish traffic in the Gaza Strip."]

Our correspondent adds that shots were fired last night at the Palestinian intelligence bureau in the Gaza Strip. There were no casualties, but sources in the Palestinian security services believe the shots were fired by Islamic Jihad elements as a warning to the Palestinian Authority against interfering with the Islamic Jihad.

In this context, the IDF [Israel Defense Forces] spokesman wishes to correct a previous report: The terrorist did not penetrate the IDF outpost at Netzarim. He blew himself up in its vicinity.

PLO's Quray' Meets Israel's Shohat in Jerusalem

JN0911170394 Jericho Voice of Palestine in Arabic 1515 GMT 9 Nov 94

[FBIS Translated Text] Ahmad Quray', Abu-'Ala', minister of economy and trade in the National Authority, met with his Israeli counterpart Avraham Shohat in Jerusalem today to lay the groundwork for implementing the economic agreement signed in Paris in April 1993.

The meeting between the Israeli and Palestinian ministers was held within the context of the work of the Palestinian-Israeli Economic Committee.

Quray' on Meeting, Economic Demands

JN0911175594 Jerusalem Qol Yisra'el in Arabic 1530 GMT 9 Nov 94

[Interview with Ahmad Quray', official in charge of the economic portfolio in the Palestinian Authority, by radio correspondent Rajih Qaddur "shortly after" Quray's meeting with the Israeli finance minister at the Israeli Finance Ministry in Jerusalem on 9 November, from the "With the Events" program— recorded]

[FBIS Translated Text] [Quray'] The most important thing is that a meeting has been held, and that the list of issues and problems we have faced while implementing this agreement was put on the table for discussions. Next Wednesday [16 November], a meeting will be held by experts from both sides. They will discuss seriously the laying of foundations for a relationship regarding all these issues. This will be followed by a meeting on a ministerial level to decide finally on these issues and organize things through subcommittees or successive meetings, so such problems will not accumulate.

[Qaddur] What Palestinian demands were raised during this meeting?

[Quray'] We raised more than 30 points regarding trade, customs, taxes, workers, and agriculture. The most important thing is that we requested the transfer of all that is related to economics in the West Bank to the Palestinian Authority, so there will be no longer any separation between the economic plans and programs for Gaza and Jericho on the one hand and those for the remainder of the West Bank on the other.

[Qaddur] By talking about the economy in the West Bank, what fields do you mean?

[Quray'] All fields, such as trade, industry, agriculture, issuance of licenses, banks, water, the environment, and other fields.

Beirut 'Sources' on Possible Syrian Track Solution

MM1011133694 London AL-HAYAH in Arabic 10 Nov 94 p 2

[Report by Walid Shuqayr: "U.S. Mediation Seeking Proposals To Reconcile Phased Withdrawal From Golan and Normal Relations"]

[FBIS Translated Excerpts] Beirut—Official Lebanese sources have told AL-HAYAH that the progress being talked about on the Syrian track of the peace negotiations is attributable to the fact that discussions have moved through the U.S. broker to finding the necessary ways out in order to reconcile the Israeli view, which is demanding the establishment of normal and natural peace relations with the launch of the early stages of the Israeli withdrawal from the Golan, and the Syrian view saying that it is impossible for Damascus to allow the Israeli flag to be raised in the Syrian capital until the last Israeli soldier has withdrawn from the Golan.

The sources pointed out—on the basis of part of the picture of what has been achieved through the U.S. broker, not full facts—that "the Americans are seeking to bring about points of mutual approximation in this question in particular, among several other questions. But this question, that is the linkage between the withdrawal and normal ['adiyah] peace relations (as Syrian

This report may contain copyrighted material. Copying and dissemination is prohibited without permission of the copyright owners.

President Hafiz al-Asad described them), is fundamental in the negotiations between the two sides."

The sources added that "it seems from U.S. Secretary of State Warren Christopher's tours and U.S. President Bill Clinton's visit to the region and his meeting with President al-Asad at the end of last month that the talk of a breakthrough is attributable to the settlement of the question of complete withdrawal from the Golan by the Israeli side and the possibility of finding a way out regarding the period over which the withdrawal process would be completed—as there is talk of a 16-month period in return for Syria's announcement of its willingness to establish normal and natural ['adiyah wa tabi-'iyah] peace relations (the Syrian version of what the West term normalization)—and discussing the methods of deploying the forces and the mechanism needed to implement the withdrawal and deploy the UN forces to take charge of the demilitarized zone." [passage omitted]

The sources say that it is possible to find a way out of the Syrian insistence on [delaying the establishment of] diplomatic relations until the withdrawal process has been completed. Because mutual recognition in international traditions does not mean exchanging ambassadors or missions once it takes place. The first step could be in the form of mutual recognition after the first phase of withdrawal, to be followed, for example, by the formation of coordination committees for withdrawal arrangements in both countries. Then missions at a certain level would be sent to the two capitals, but to be based in a friendly embassy in both countries...provided preparations are made to open the embassies after the withdrawal from the Golan has been completed. According to the sources, this does not mean that these ideas are under discussion. But they are examples of the ways out that can be adopted to reconcile the establishment of relations and a phased withdrawal. [passage omitted]

Inter-Arab Affairs

Arab League Chief: Iraqi Decision 'Not Enough'

NC1011170994 Cairo MENA in Arabic 1630 GMT 10 Nov 94

[FBIS Translated Text] Cairo, 10 Nov (MENA)—Arab League Secretary General Dr. 'Ismat 'Abd-al-Majid has stated that Iraq's recognition of UN Security Council Resolution 833 is not enough on its own. He stressed that this step must be completed by Iraq's recognition of all UN Security Council resolutions. In a statement to MENA today, 'Abd-al-Majid expressed the hope that this step will help to restore normalcy, pointing out that it will enable him personally to undertake contacts to win support for his initiative on clearing the Arab atmosphere within the framework of an all-embracing conciliation.

'Abd-al-Majid on Kuwait, Israel Boycott

JN1011203694 Paris Radio Monte Carlo in Arabic 1735 GMT 10 Nov 94

[Interview with Arab League Secretary General Dr. 'Ismat 'Abd-al-Majid by correspondent Kamal Tarabayh on 10 November; place not given; from the "Political Week" feature—recorded]

[FBIS Translated Excerpt] [Tarabayh] Today, Thursday, 10 November, Iraq took the necessary step and recognized Kuwait. This time, it was an official recognition, given that it was made through the constitutional bodies; the Iraqi National Assembly and the Revolution Command Council. Arab League Secretary General Dr. 'Ismat 'Abd-al-Majid had always hoped that such a decision would be made. He was the first to welcome the Iraqi-Russian statement issued in Moscow two days ago containing an Iraqi pledge to recognize Kuwait's independence and sovereignty?

['Abd-al-Majid] This is an important step and will help in clearing the Arab atmosphere. But this should be followed by the other important steps with respect to the implementation of the UN Security Council resolutions on the Gulf crisis. It would be suitable for the Arab League to be officially informed of such stands.

[Tarabayh] Mr. Secretary General, do you believe this is the last necessary condition to lift the international embargo that is imposed on Iraq?

['Abd-al-Majid] As I said, it is a first and important step. However, it should be followed by other steps in which Iraq implements all the UN Security Council resolutions to which it has committed itself and which it accepted. [passage omitted]

[Tarabayh] Mr. Secretary General, let us go back to the Palestinian-Israeli issue. Yitzhaq Rabin has again asked Yasir 'Arafat to firmly enforce security in the Gaza Strip and to prevent the Palestinian opposition forces from carrying out political and military activities. This means that Rabin is asking 'Arafat to protect the occupation. How do you view these Israeli demands, particularly at this time? Does this not fan the fire?

['Abd-al-Majid] These are impossible demands. They will not lead to stability or realize the hope we want realized in this region for the Palestinian brothers. Israel should help the PLO on this issue and not set impossible conditions, especially since the events which recently took place were outside the area that is under the control of the Palestinian Authority [PA]. In the past, Israel failed to tackle this problem. Therefore, it should not hold the PA responsible for its failure. [passage omitted]

[Tarabayh] Arab political circles were taken by surprise at Yitzhaq Rabin's announcement late last week that he does not recognize UN Security Council Resolution 425 on Israel's withdrawal from occupied southern Lebanon.

This report may contain copyrighted material. Copying and dissemination is prohibited without permission of the copyright owners.

Rabin said: To me, this resolution does not exist. Mr. Secretary General, do you not consider this stand unusual?

['Abd-al-Majid] The least that one can say about this statement is that it is unusual. We must abide by this resolution. It is a binding UN Security Council resolution. As Iraq is asked to implement the UN Security Council resolutions, so Israel should also be asked to implement the UN Security Council resolutions. We should not resort to double standards on such issues. [passage omitted]

[Tarabayh] This is a question to which I hope you will give a very explicit reply: Does the decision to end the Arab economic boycott of Israel need to be made within the Arab League or does every Arab country has the right to unilaterally make the decision it believes appropriate?

['Abd-al-Majid] You know that there is a direct and an indirect boycott, the one they call the secondary and tertiary boycott....

[Tarabayh, interrupting] Some Gulf countries have lifted....

['Abd-al-Majid, interrupting] I was just going to speak about this. The direct boycott is the one that is directly linked to Israel. Let us be clear here: This boycott can only be ended with the establishment of a state of peace between Israel and the countries concerned. A state of peace took place between Egypt and Israel and the boycott was lifted. A state of peace took place between Israel and Jordan and the boycott was also lifted there. As for the secondary and tertiary boycott, this depends on each country, which has the right to decide what it believes is in line with its interests. This is how I explain the Gulf Cooperation Council [GCC] countries decision on this issue.

[Tarabayh] Does this mean that the GCC countries have the right to decide on ending the secondary and tertiary boycott without going back to the Arab League?

['Abd-al-Majid] Yes, this is their right and that of every sovereign country because the Arab League does not view itself as a state above the other states. [passage omitted]

Arab League Chief Affirms Support for Libya

LD0711145294 Tripoli JANA in English 1424 GMT 7 Nov 94

[FBIS Transcribed Text] Cairo, Al-Harth [November] 7 JAMAHARIYAH NEWS AGENCY—Dr 'Ismat 'Abd-al-Majid, the secretary general of the Arab League, has re-affirmed the continued solidarity and support of the Arab League for the Great Jamahiriyah against the unfair sanctions imposed by the Western states through the so-called Security Council.

Arab League Councillor, Talat Hamid [name as received], who is the official spokesman, made a statement indicating that the secretary general has urged the ambassadors of the USA, Britain and France during his meeting with them in Cairo yesterday, to inform their governments of the need to respond to the Arab League decision concerning the so-called Lockerbie case.

The Arab League secretary general stressed the need to reach a peaceful settlement to this crisis in line with the Arab League's keenness to maintain and preserve the legitimate rights of the Great Jamahiriyah in practising its sovereignty over its territory and nationals.

The secretary also informed the three Western ambassadors that the Arab League calls for the non-escalation of the American and Western position towards the Great Jamahiriyah and indicated that any escalation will lead to the creation of instability and insecurity in the Arab area and the Mediterranean.

The Arab League also confirmed that the Great Jamahiriyah had co-operated in a positive and serious way to solve this case.

Edward Walker, the American ambassador in Cairo, said following the meeting, that he had studied the results and resolutions of the Casablanca conference in addition to the crisis between the Great Jamahiriyah and the Western states.

He added that the U.S. asked the Arab League to cancel the Arab boycott imposed on the Israelis indicating that this will enhance the so-called peace process in the area.

Arab Maghreb Union Holds 30th Session in Algiers

Committee Begins Preparatory Meeting

LD1111143094 Algiers Radio Algiers Network in Arabic 1130 GMT 11 Nov 94

[Report by Mohamed Chelouch on the opening of the 30th session of the Arab Maghreb Union's follow-up committee in Algiers on 11 November]

[FBIS Translated Excerpt] Ahmed Attaf, head of the Arab Maghreb Union's [AMU] follow-up committee and the official government spokesman, opened this session of the follow-up committee in preparation for the the Maghreban ministerial council's meeting to be held in Algeria tomorrow. [passage omitted]

Mr. Ahmed Attaf expressed the hope that new steps will be attained and added to the gains that have been achieved for the interest of the Arab Maghreb peoples. He said despite the ordinary character of this session organizationally, it had a special importance because it was convening amid critical conditions in the region. Therefore, the meetings of the follow-up committee at this session constituted, in some parts, a pause for reflection to deal with the shortcomings and face up to the challenges that should be dealt with. The aim always remains: strengthening the march of the Maghreban union to enable it to achieve the aspirations of the

This report may contain copyrighted material. Copying and dissemination is prohibited without permission of the copyright owners.

peoples in the region and to adapt to the transitional conditions and the outside world.

Attaf did not forget to praise the open atmosphere which have characterized these meetings since the preparatory meeting held yesterday evening, an openness driven by the desire to overcome the transitional conditions to promote the AMU's modern project to the highest level of achievement.

Mr. Attaf pointed out that if the setting up of AMU was a strategic option, this collective course, therefore, required a more vagarious determination in order to be promoted without being effected by transitional developments. [passage omitted]

During this public opening session, the head of the Mauritanian delegation delivered a speech in which he stressed that his country's delegation had high hopes for this session, which was convening in Algeria to asses the union's march and to overcome the obstacles hindering the implementation of some treaties. He said this session should be a pause for contemplation to face up to the difficulties and obstacles.

Then AMU Secretary General Amamou asked to address the meeting following the intervention of the head of the Mauritanian delegation. He said that what made this session more important was that it coincided with the 40th anniversary of the glorious Algerian November revolution. He said that the meeting expressed the Algerian leadership's commitment to the modern project of establishing the AMU. The AMU secretary general affirmed that the significance of the session was also in following up the series of consultations and meetings according to a distinguished order of frankness and serious study in order to implement (?presidential) resolutions and priority projects.

Ministers Arrive; Musa Comments

LD1211090494 Algiers Radio Algiers Network in Arabic 0600 GMT 12 Nov 94

[FBIS Translated Text] On the eve of the 16th session of the Arab Maghreb Union [AMU] foreign ministers, the chiefs of Mauritanian, Egyptian, and Libyan diplomacy arrived yesterday at Houari Boumedienne international airport. Egyptian Foreign Minister 'Amr Musa is taking part in this session for the first time at the invitation of Algerian Foreign Minister Mohamed Salah Dembri, as our country currently chairs the AMU and is also linked to Egypt with fraternal and friendly relations.

On arrival at Houari Boumedienne airport, Musa made a statement to Fudhey Saaddine about Egypt's participation in this session. He said:

[Begin Musa recording] I am happy to be here on the soil of fraternal Algeria and to meet the brothers from Algeria, Libya, Morocco, Mauritania, and Tunisia at their meeting within the framework of the Maghreb Union. The presence of Egypt and its attendance of this meeting enlarges this meeting to cover the whole of north Africa.

Consultations and attendance, in our view, is important and is in the interest of the wider Arab action; therefore, we welcome this generous invitation and hope our attendance and participation in this meeting and in the activities of the Union would be the beginning of good things to come with regard to Arab cooperation and cooperation in north Africa.

I will have the opportunity to be honored by meeting President Liamine Zeroual, as I carry a message for him from President Husni Mubarak. I will also meet the prime minister, to whom I carry a message from the prime minister of Egypt pertaining to bilateral relations between Egypt and Algeria. This is an additional mission I undertake in addition to the participation in the Union's meetings. [end recording]

Musa Addresses Meeting

NC1211172794 Cairo Arab Republic of Egypt Radio Network in Arabic 1500 GMT 12 Nov 94

[FBIS Translated Text] Egyptian Foreign Minister 'Amr Musa has declared that Egypt's participation in Arab Maghreb Union [AMU] meetings reflects its wish to ensure that the AMU is a way towards pan-Arab unity and a starting point for a larger union that will include other Arab and African countries. He emphasized Egypt's principles and objectives.

In an address during the opening session of the AMU's 16th ministerial meeting in Algiers, Musa pointed out that it is not strange for Egypt to be the first country to extend its hand to its brothers on this matter, to accept an invitation to attend this meeting, to propose obtaining the status of permanent observer at AMU conferences, or to think seriously of joining it as a full member.

Musa added that he is attending the conference as Egypt's representative on the instructions of President Husni Mubarak. He explained that his attendance is based on agreements over principles, goals, and mutual interest.

Musa Seeks Egypt's Membership

LD1211163994 Algiers Radio Algiers Network in Arabic 1600 GMT 12 Nov 94

[FBIS Transcribed Text] Foreign Minister Mohamed Salah Dembri announced today that Egypt has officially asked to join the Arab Maghreb Union. Egyptian Foreign Minister 'Amr Musa is attending the proceedings of the 16th Arab Maghreb Union foreign ministers' meeting—which is currently being held in Algiers—as a guest.

This report may contain copyrighted material. Copying and dissemination is prohibited without permission of the copyright owners.

AMU Chairman Ends Algiers Meeting

LD1211230994 Algiers Radio Algiers Network in Arabic 2200 GMT 12 Nov 94

[FBIS Translated Text] The 16th Arab Maghreb Union [AMU] foreign ministers' meeting ended today in Algier's Aurassi Hotel. After the meeting, Mohamed Salah Dembri, chairman of the AMU foreign ministers' meeting and Algeria's foreign minister, made the following statement:

[Begin recording] [Dembri] The council discussed all the measures required to tackle the problems facing it. We recorded a full agenda to settle all outstanding issues. At the same time, the issue of expanding the AMU was discussed. Egypt was of course present. The subject of expansion is subject to a study of the the laws, because Article 17, in particular, on the establishment law of the AMU, does not specify the conditions for membership. This will be resolved as soon as possible. The file will be submitted to the Presidential Council for a decision to be made.

I think these issues [word indistinct] Of course, there were political consultations, and we discussed all issues which interest the Arab world in general, as well as international matters requiring a collective decision.

[Unidentified correspondent] If you please, what about the freedom of movement between countries, about which you found some difficulties?

[Dembri] Yes, in fact that was one of the first decisions made by the AMU, but until now there have been delays in implementing the political will with regard to the freedom of movement.

We discussed it and I believe that in the coming months the necessary measures will be taken in every country to allow, to facilitate the movement of individuals, and even goods. [end recording]

AMU Satisfied With Iraqi Decision

LD1311133094 Algiers Radio Algiers Network in Arabic 1200 GMT 13 Nov 94

[FBIS Translated Text] The proceedings of the 16th session of the council of foreign ministers of the Arab Maghreb Union [AMU] ended in the capital last night.

After the end of the session, Mr. Mohamed Salah Dembri, chairman of the AMU council of foreign ministers, made a statement in which he pointed out that the council reviewed the developments in the Arab world and expressed the council's satisfaction with the positive development in the relations between Iraq and Kuwait following Iraq's announcement that it officially recognized the State of Kuwait and its borders.

Mr. Dembri said that the council recalled particularly the appeals made by the AMU presidency in its previous session, calling for the need to find a solution to the Iraq-Kuwait dispute on the basis of respect of the independence of the State of Kuwait and its sovereignty and eliminating the sufferings of the Iraqi people.

Regarding the point concerning Egypt's desire to join the AMU, Mr. Dembri said that Egypt's application would be submitted to the presidency.

Libya Backs Egypt; Lockerbie Case

NC1311182294 Cairo MENA in Arabic 1645 GMT 13 Nov 94

[FBIS Translated Excerpt] Algiers, 13 Nov (MENA)—Jum'ah al-Fazzani, secretary of the General People's Committee for Unity Affairs in Libya, has stated that his country welcomes Egypt's membership in the Arab Maghreb Union [AMU], noting that this would be in line with the Libyan Arab unionist policy that has been seeking to establish comprehensive Arab unity since the 1st September revolution was carried out by brother Colonel Mu'ammar al-Qadhdhafi.

In an interview with a MENA correspondent in Algiers on the sidelines of the AMU meetings where he is leading his country's delegation, al-Fazzani said the Libyan people believe that unity is the fort of safety, a response to the Arab nation's natural components, and a measure to face the various international blocs.

He added that Article 17 of the treaty that established the AMU allows the acceptance of new members from the Arab and African countries. The leaders also decided in the treaty that this union is a means to achieve a comprehensive Arab unity by admitting other Arab countries into it.

Jum'ah al-Fazzani added: We regard Egypt's membership of the AMU as a boost for the union, as it will provide better elements of success in view of Egypt's role, ability, and effectiveness. He added: We welcome Egypt's membership under any name whatsoever. We also see in 'Amr Musa's participation in the ministerial council's 16th session meetings as the realization of the principles propounded by the AMU leaders. He described Egypt's membership as a historic step for the AMU.

On developments in the Lockerbie case, al-Fazzani said that his country responded to positive initiatives, agreed to Arab initiatives, and committed itself to implement the UN resolution. The Arab League secretary general and the United Nations are aware of this. He added that Libyan citizens are feeling this injustice inflicted on them, which has harshly affected their lives and resources and has caused great damage, such as shortages of medicines, difficulties in traveling, the death of a number of citizens on land routes, and a reduction of production and agricultural capabilities. [passage omitted]

Al-Fazzani continued: By accepting these initiatives, we have emphasized two truths. The first truth is that we are

This report may contain copyrighted material. Copying and dissemination is prohibited without permission of the copyright owners.

dealing with the international community and with the international developments, and the second is that we have complied with what was asked from us in the UN resolutions, especially in the field of judicial cooperation with France and political dialogue with Britain, and in condemning terrorism [words indistinct] said to be supporting terrorism. He added: [Words indistinct] and injustice because we have (?done) all that has been asked of us, and therefore continuing the air embargo on us is a continuation of injustice on our Arab people in Libya. [passage omitted]

Regarding recent developments between Kuwait and Iraq, the Libyan official said: We rejected what Iraq did to fraternal Kuwait right from the start of the aggression, especially as Iraq had recognized Kuwait in 1962 and dealt with it through diplomatic channels. We regarded Iraq's action against Kuwait as an aggression against a member state of the Arab League. He added: Iraq's step is nothing new but completes its recognition of Kuwait in 1962 and is in line with the historic links between the two countries and peoples. He expressed his belief that the Kuwaiti-Iraqi problem has gone beyond the Arab framework, adding that Iraq has taken several measures to fulfill its commitments and implement the Security Council resolutions, and therefore we regard Iraq's recent decision as a step toward ending this problem. [passage omitted]

Palestinian Affairs

Reportage on Netzarim Explosion, Comments, Reactions

VOP Gives Report, Casualties

JN1111161694 Jericho Voice of Palestine in Arabic 1515 GMT 11 Nov 94

[Report by 'Adil al-Za'nun in Gaza]

[FBIS Translated Text] An explosion occurred at noon today, killing three Israelis and wounding seven others in a military operation carried out by a Palestinian near Netzarim settlement, south of Gaza. The Palestinian who carried out the operation was riding a motorcycle, and it seems he was carrying explosives. He ran his motorcycle into an Israeli car belonging to the settlers.

Israeli soldiers in a nearby military post opened fire on the perpetrator of the operation, wounding nine Palestinian citizens. Four of them were taken to al-Ahli Hospital in Gaza. Three have left the hospital, while the fourth, Mahmud Abu-Kumayl, 32, remains hospitalized. The others were rushed to Israeli hospitals.

Major General 'Abd-al-Razzaq al-Majayidah, head of the National Security Forces, and other Palestinian officers visited the area where the incident took place.

Al-Husayni Comments on Attack

TA1111163094 Tel Aviv IDF Radio in Hebrew 1530 GMT 11 Nov 94

[Telephone interview with Faysal al-Husayni by Mikha Friedman; place not given—live]

[FBIS Translated Text] [Friedman] Mr. al-Husayni, what is your reaction to the murderous attack in Gaza?

[Al-Husayni] It is terrible; I cannot say more than that. Truly, Jews were killed and Arabs were wounded without knowing why. First of all, we denounce all killings and all violent actions. All we hope for now is that we will work together, that we do not once again experience a wave of violence which could cause things to deteriorate to a state we all did not want, because we did everything possible to reach peace. Now we all must work together to make sure that such things do not recur and to prevent a wave of violence.

[Friedman] But you also promised in the past that you would do everything possible to prevent such terrorist actions, and yet they continue, while you coordinate positions with Hamas [Islamic Resistance Movement].

[Al-Husayni] Look, I think they are now doing everything possible in Gaza. I heard it took place in Netzarim, a place under the control of both regimes. Is that not correct? I think we must do everything—and I am sure that in Gaza they are doing everything—to find out who did it, from where, and how. I also hope the Israelis do the same. Please do not put the blame on just one side but find out where and under whose regime it occurred. We will do everything to find the perpetrators.

[Friedman] But I can update you. The chief of staff was very clear: He puts responsibility on the Palestinian Authority [PA]. He does not claim that you carried out the attack, but preventing attacks is your exclusive responsibility.

[Al-Husayni] I have already said and I will repeat: You cannot have full control if you do not have full power in a certain area. It happened in Netzarim; therefore, I do not know whether it came from inside or outside the Gaza Strip. Therefore, we must do everything to find out where it came from. If it came from Gaza, then we are responsible and we must find the perpetrators. But you also have to consider the other option, which is that he might have come from an area not under Palestinian jurisdiction.

[Friedman] What is your reaction to Israeli opposition calls to stop the negotiations with the Palestinians immediately and take time out until it has been proven that the PA is capable of preventing terrorist actions?

[Al-Husayni] The person who brought that up did so to stop the negotiations; that is all I can say. If we cease the negotiations, we serve those who carried out the action.

Security Head Condemns Attack

TA1111165694 Tel Aviv IDF Radio in Hebrew 1630 GMT 11 Nov 94

[FBIS Translated Excerpt] Three IDF [Israel Defense Forces] officers in the reserves were killed and another six soldiers and border policemen were wounded—two

This report may contain copyrighted material. Copying and dissemination is prohibited without permission of the copyright owners.

of them seriously—in today's attack at Netzarim junction in the Gaza Strip. [passage omitted]

Muhammad Dahlan, head of the Palestinian security service, told IDF Radio a short time ago that the Netzarim incident is grave, because it upsets the agreement between the Palestinian Authority [PA] and Israel. He said it is now very important to improve relations between the two sides and promised that the Palestinian security service will take the appropriate measures against those responsible for the murderous attack. [passage omitted]

Islamic Jihad To Continue Attacks

TA1111151294 Tel Aviv IDF Radio in Hebrew 1405 GMT 11 Nov 94

[Report by military correspondent Avi Lipschitz]

[FBIS Translated Text] The Israeli security forces arrived on the scene the moment the attack occurred. The IDF [Israel Defense Forces] has declared the Netzarim junction a closed military area, and our forces are engaging in wide-ranging searches in the area. Major General Sha'ul Mufaz, the new commander of the Southern Command, is already there, and the chief of staff is also apparently there.

People have gathered outside the home of Hani al-'Abid. Ziyad 'Azzam, the head of the Islamic Jihad's military wing, said his organization will continue to attack Israelis. 'Abdallah 'Ashami, the head of the political arm, who is considered the Islamic Jihad's spokesman, said: We have taken a path, we know what it is, and we know its limits. Shouting through loudspeakers, the Islamic Jihad took responsibility for the attack. The speaker announced a heroic act near Netzarim in which Israelis were killed and wounded. This is our answer to the killing of Hani al-'Abid and retaliation for all the Palestinians who have been killed, the speaker said.

People are firing in the air. Yasir 'Arafat is in his office waiting to convene the security committee.

Jihad Spokesman Gives Statement

NC1111181594 Tehran Voice of the Islamic Republic of Iran in Arabic 1730 GMT 11 Nov 94

[Report by Muhammad Bishkar in Beirut]

[FBIS Translated Text] The Zionist occupation troops suffered a new blow today at the hands of the mujahidin of the Islamic intifadah. A 17-year-old Palestinian struggler carried out a martyrdom operation against a Zionist military patrol at noon today near a Zionist settlement in Gaza, killing or wounding enemy soldiers.

The Islamic Jihad in Palestine, led by Dr. Fathi al-Shaqaqi, claimed responsibility for the operation. A spokesman for the movement gave us the following statement on the operation:

[Begin unidentified spokesman's recording] In retaliation for the blood of martyr leader Hani 'Abid, answering the Zionists in the way the Israeli security agencies understand and in the language of arms used by the occupation against our struggling people, and in continuation of the series of daring operations carried out by our mujahidin against the Zionist occupation troops, the Islamic struggling forces, Qasam, the military wing of the Movement of the Islamic Jihad in Palestine, today, Friday 11 November, at noon, carried out a heroic attack using a bicycle carrying an explosive device against a military patrol of the occupation on a road leading to the Netzarim settlement. The attack killed three Zionist soldiers and wounded 15 others.

While emphasizing that our jihad against the occupation will continue, we in the Islamic Jihad in Palestine announce that this is the first reply to the crime of the murder of martyr leader Hani 'Abid. The revenge of our mujahidin will continue. We warn the self-rule authority against harming our mujahidin or cooperating with the occupation authorities in chasing the mujahidin. On this occasion, we emphasize that our mujahidin will not lay down their arms under any circumstances. We will continue to carry our arms to liberate the sacred homeland. [end recording]

Islamic Jihad Identifies 'Hero'

NC1111183094 Paris AFP in English 1807 GMT 11 Nov 94

[FBIS Transcribed Text] Gaza City, Gaza Strip, Nov 11 (AFP)—The fundamentalist Islamic Jihad on Friday [11 November] identified its suicide bomber who killed three soldiers, and warned of further attacks.

In a statement sent to news agencies here, Islamic Jihad's military wing QASAM said their "hero" Hisham Isma'il 'Abd-al Rahman Hamad, 21, had carried out the operation.

It said Hamad was a resident of Gaza City's Shaykh Radwan district.

"This act comes in a series of heroic acts and as a first, swift response to the killing of our hero Hani 'Abid," said QASAM, which stands for the Islamic Armed Force, Jihad's military wing.

'Abid died in a car bomb in the Gaza Strip on November 2 and all Palestinian factions blamed Israel.

"We in QASAM celebrate with the Islamic nation the good news of Hisham Ismail's death," the statement said.

"The presence of any Zionist on the land of Palestine, all of Palestine... will be the target of our fire," the statement said.

The fundamentalist group claims all of Israel, together with the territories, as Palestinian land, and has vowed to return it.

This report may contain copyrighted material. Copying and dissemination is prohibited without permission of the copyright owners.

More on Explosion

JN1111195994 (Clandestine) Al-Quds Palestinian Arab Radio in Arabic 1730 GMT 11 Nov 94

[FBIS Translated Text] On the way from Dizengoff in Tall al-Rabi' [Tel Aviv] to Netzarim in the Gaza Strip of glory and pride, many people have fallen as martyrs. At 1330 today, a huge explosion resounded on the road to the Zionist Netzarim settlement in the Gaza Strip. Our correspondent said that a heroic Palestinian young man carried out a martyrdom operation by ramming a booby-trapped motorcycle into a bus carrying Zionist settlers. The perpetrator, whose name is still unknown, was immediately martyred, three Zionists were killed, and more than 15 Zionists were wounded, most of them seriously.

Following the martyrdom operation, the Zionist enemy's forces stormed the area surrounding the central camps of the Gaza City, and Zionist military ambulances and helicopters were seen carrying the killed and wounded Zionists to hospital. 'Arafat's police closed the Gaza-Khan Yunis highway and stopped our people and searched their cars.

The Islamic Jihad Movement in Palestine issued a statement in which it claimed responsibility for the martyrdom operation at the Netzarim junction. The statement says:

In retaliation for the blood of mujahid martyr Hani 'Abid, in reply to the Zionists in the language the Zionist intelligence and enemy understand, and in completion of a series of bold operations carried out by our mujahidin, the mujahidin Islamic forces, Qasam, the military wing of the Islamic Jihad Movement in Palestine, this afternoon, Friday, carried out a heroic attack by ramming a motorcycle carrying an explosive charge into a Zionist bus, killing three Zionists and wounding 15 others. We, in the Islamic Jihad in Palestine, assert that our jihad against the enemy will continue and declare that this is the first retaliation for the murder of mujahid Hani 'Abid and that our mujahidin's revenge will continue.

The movement warned the authorities of the 'Arafat regime against hurting our mujahidin or cooperating with the Zionist enemy in chasing the mujahidin. It added: On this occasion, we assert that our mujahidin will not lay down their arms under any sort of pressure and that we will continue to carry our arms to liberate the sacred homeland.

In the wake of the Netzarim junction operation in the Gaza Strip, which came in retaliation for the martyrdom of mujahid Hani 'Abid, extensive preparations were under way to commemorate the martyrdom of 'Abid near the house of his family on the passage of one week since his martyrdom. For that purpose, thousands of citizens came after the Friday prayers to attend the ceremony called by the Islamic Jihad Movement in Palestine. However, at a checkpoint located on both sides of the Gaza valley south of the city, 'Arafat's police and security men stopped seven buses carrying hundreds of citizens from the central and southern camps and prevented them from reaching the ceremony site.

'Arafat Aide Gives Warning to 'Terrorists'

TA1111150394 Tel Aviv IDF Radio in Hebrew 1404 GMT 11 Nov 94

[Report by Golan Yokhpaz in the territories]

[FBIS Translated Text] PLO leader Yasir 'Arafat summoned the Palestinian security arms for an urgent meeting this evening in the wake of the Netzarim suicide attack. 'Arafat ordered the Palestinian security officials to investigate the attack immediately and gather any information on it. Khalid Salam, 'Arafat's aide, said a Palestinian team is cooperating with Israel in investigating the attack. Steps will be taken against the terrorists, Salam said, if they came from the Gaza Strip.

Police Round Up Jihad Members

NC1211095994 Paris AFP in English 0832 GMT 12 Nov 94

[FBIS Transcribed Text] Gaza City, Gaza Strip, Nov 12 (AFP)—Palestinian police launched a pre-dawn crackdown on the radical Islamic Jihad, arresting scores of activists in the wake of a suicide bombing that killed three Israeli soldiers, relatives said Saturday [12 November].

PLO chief Yasir 'Arafat ordered an investigation into the bombing Friday by a teenage suicide cyclist near the Jewish settlement of Netzarim in the autonomous Gaza Strip.

Islamic Jihad's military wing al-Qassam claimed responsibility for the blast, saying it was in revenge for the killing of one of their leaders, Hani 'Abid, in a car bomb on November 2. All Palestinian factions blamed Israel for his death.

The detainees included a senior leader of the radical Islamic Jihad, 'Abdallah al-Shami.

"They came at around two o'clock in the morning, and politely asked for 'Abdallah," said Isma'il, al-Shami's brother.

Al-Shami had said he was "happy" about Friday's bombing, but denied he had prior knowledge of it. He and other fundamentalist leaders have constantly claimed that as political heads they were disconnected from the group's armed wing.

Isma'il told AFP about ten police officers and soldiers came for his brother. He said they also arrested scores of Islamic Jihad members in his neighborhood, but did not use force.

Other sources close to the fundamentalist group said at least 20 people were detained from across the Strip, including the central Dayr al-Balah and southern Rafah regions.

This report may contain copyrighted material. Copying and dissemination is prohibited without permission of the copyright owners.

Israel has pressured Arafat to crack down on fundamentalist militants in Gaza. The radical groups have been behind attacks that killed 42 Israelis since the start of autonomy on the Gaza Strip and the West Bank town of Jericho in May.

Islamic Jihad Activists Detained

TA1211133294 Jerusalem Qol Yisra'el in Hebrew 1300 GMT 12 Nov 94

[FBIS Translated Text] The Palestinian police are still rounding up Islamic Jihad activists in the Gaza Strip, and so far, over 100 have been detained. Organization leaders have gone underground, however, and none has been detained. [Jerusalem Qol Yisra'el in Hebrew at 1200 GMT on 12 November adds that "most Islamic Jihad leaders, including Shaykh 'Abdallah al-Shami, fled their homes."]

Our correspondent Yoni Ben-Menahem reports that among the detainees are AL-NAHAR journalist Muhammad al-Ijla and Jericho Voice of Palestine reporter 'Adil Za'nun.

In addition, in a bid to prevent the Islamic Jihad from staging demonstrations, the Palestinian police have deployed troops in streets leading to the tent in the al-Shaykh Radwan neighborhood in Gaza where Hisham Hamad, the suicide terrorist who carried out yesterday's attack near the Netzarim junction, is being mourned.

Islamic Jihad: Attacks To Continue

NC1211153094 Paris AFP in English 1352 GMT 12 Nov 94

[FBIS Transcribed Text] Damascus, Nov 12 (AFP)—Militant attacks against Israel will continue, the head of the radical Islamic Jihad said Saturday [12 November] after a suicide bombing by the group killed three Israeli soldiers in the Gaza Strip.

Fathi al-Shiqaqi, Jihad secretary-general, told AFP here that Friday's bomb attack was "a military operation against Israeli officers, whose deaths are revenge for the assassination of journalist Hani 'Abid."

'Abid, one of Jihad's leaders, was killed 10 days ago by a car bomb in Gaza. All Palestinian factions blamed Israel for his death.

"I think we have the right to defend ourselves, especially when the Palestinian authority did not even dare to condemn Abid's assassination," al-Shiqaqi said.

Islamic Jihad "will continue its operations against Israel," he added.

The fundamentalist group also demanded that Palestinian police free "immediately" its militants arrested in pre-dawn raids Saturday, in a statement sent to AFP in Nicosia.

A source close to Jihad said police arrested 65 people including senior leader 'Abdallah al-Shami.

"We call on the autonomy authority to free immediately and unconditionally our militants arrested following the heroic operation" of the suicide bomber, the statement said.

"Our militants will not lay down their weapons whatever the pressure, and will continue carrying them to liberate our holy land."

A teenage suicide bomber on a bicycle blew himself up near the Jewish settlement of Netzarim in the Gaza Strip, killing three soldiers and wounding a dozen other people. The attack was claimed by Jihad's armed wing QASSAM.

Another hardline Palestinian group opposed to the peace process with Israel, the Popular Front for the Liberation of Palestine-General Command, hailed the bomb attack in a statement issued Saturday.

The Damascus-based group said it "congratulates the Palestinian people and Islamic Jihad heroes for the heroic action in Palestine."

The front warned the Palestinian Authority, headed by PLO chief Yasir 'Arafat, against "continuing to arrest Palestinian heroes."

Islamic Jihad Spiritual Leader Detained

TA1311192494 Jerusalem Israel Television Channel 1 Network in Hebrew 1800 GMT 13 Nov 94

[Announcer-read report]

[FBIS Translated Text] The Palestinian Police detained Shaykh 'Abdallah al-Shami, the spiritual leader of the Islamic Jihad, today in Gaza. He was photographed there last Friday trampling on an Israeli flag during an Islamic Jihad rally. Since Friday, the Palestinian Police have detained about 150 Islamic Jihad activists in the wake of the Netzarim Junction incident.

Police Arrest More Islamic Suspects

NC1411102994 Paris AFP in English 1003 GMT 14 Nov 94

[FBIS Transcribed Text] Gaza City, Gaza Strip, Nov 14 (AFP)—Palestinian police pursued Monday [14 November] a crackdown on Islamic Jihad, pushing to about 150 the number of fundamentalist suspects detained over a suicide bombing which killed three Israeli soldiers.

A human rights organization and Islamic Jihad sources estimated that as many as 150 people have been held since Friday's blast, including new arrests overnight.

Palestinian journalist 'Adil Za'nun, 23, who works as a stringer for AFP remained behind bars for a third day. Security chief Major-General Nasr Yusuf told AFP

This report may contain copyrighted material. Copying and dissemination is prohibited without permission of the copyright owners.

investigations showed he had no links to Islamic Jihad and would be released soon.

The Palestinian self-rule authority meanwhile agreed to allow the group, which opposes autonomy and the peace process, to stage a "symbolic funeral" for the bomber.

"They asked for permission to march, and we allowed it. This is a democratic country," Brigadier General Mahmud 'Asfur told AFP.

Islamic Jihad has accused the police of secretly burying the remains of Hisham Hamad two days ago.

It distributed leaflets inviting "the brave Palestinian people," to attend a "symbolic funeral" march for Hamad, from his home to a nearby mosque Monday afternoon.

Islamic Jihad sources said police banned buses carrying demonstrators from entering Gaza, but allowed the passengers to walk in.

PFLP-GC Gives Congratulations to Jihad

JN1211120694 (Clandestine) Al-Quds Palestinian Arab Radio in Arabic 1030 GMT 12 Nov 94

[FBIS Translated Text] The Popular Front for the Liberation of Palestine-General Command [PFLP-GC] has issued a statement, congratulating the Islamic Jihad on the martyrdom-seeking operation in the Netzarim settlement. The PFLP-GC statement says:

While the Zionist enemy is invading many Arab capitals, through the so-called peace treaties, with the participation of official Arab and Palestinian parties; while Rabin is celebrating his success in extending bridges of economic, political, and security normalization; amid serious infiltrations represented by the selling and leasing of land; and in light of the Jordanian regime's joining of Rabin in an integrated alliance, popular revolutionary retaliation to all this comes from the heart of Israel. The retaliation underscores the firm fact that the nature of conflict and future horizons cannot be bypassed, or faced, regardless of the difficult circumstances and the convergence of enemies.

The PFLP-GC believes the martyrdom-seeking operation carried out by the Islamic Jihad heroes in Palestine, as well as other martyrdom-seeking operations, is a direct form of retaliation that expresses our people's awareness, will, and determination to resist the treaties of humiliation and shame, which began in the darkness of Oslo and which were concluded in Washington, Cairo, and Amman, as well as the Casablanca meeting which they produced.

As we congratulate the heroes of the Islamic Jihad on this heroic operation, we also congratulate ourselves and our people, who are translating their revolutionary convictions in the battlefield. We reiterate their right to liberate Palestine and their determination to confront the policies of capitulation and liquidation.

At the same time, the PFLP-GC warns the parties to the so-called administrative self-rule authority about continuing the arrests of the mujahidin and strugglers and about imposing restrictions on them in the service of Rabin, his government, and settlers. Those small servants, who form a security strip for the settlers and enemy soldiers who practice killing and terrorism against our people and forces, should think a bit about the fate of those who became hostile to their people and who sought an alliance with their enemy.

[Signed] The Popular Front for the Liberation of Palestine-General Command

Hamas on Attack, Terms for Cease-Fire

TA1211154094 Jerusalem Qol Yisra'el in Hebrew 0805 GMT 12 Nov 94

[Yoni Ben-Menahem report]

[FBIS Translated Excerpt] The Gaza Strip Palestinians received the news of the terrorist attack at Netzarim with great satisfaction. The attack was carried out against IDF [Israel Defense Forces] soldiers near an Israeli settlement which has not been evacuated despite the peace process, locals asserted, and the Islamic Jihad took pains not to harm innocent civilians. They added that the Islamic Jihad was compelled to react swiftly to Israel's assassination of Hani 'Abid. Islamic Jihad activists maintain that the closure forced them to carry out the attack inside the Palestinian Authority.

The attack was undoubtedly an embarrassment for Yasir 'Arafat, who had pledged, in his most recent meeting with Prime Minister Yitzhaq Rabin, to fight terror in the Strip with greater determination. [passage omitted]

To avoid arrest by the Palestinian police, most Islamic Jihad leaders in the Strip fled their homes last night. Hamas [Islamic Resistance Movement] leaders in the Strip prefer to avoid public statements in order not to anger Yasir 'Arafat. 'Imad al-Faluji, one of the Hamas leaders in the Strip, agreed to say a few words to the Israeli public. [passage omitted]

Al-Faluji said: This was a natural reaction to the assassination of Hani al-'Abid by the Zionists. I say we should spare ourselves this destruction.

Refusing to speak on behalf of the Islamic Jihad, al-Faluji says Hamas will agree to a cease-fire with Israel on certain conditions: As soon as Israel recognizes the Palestinian people's right to an independent state and agrees to withdraw from the territories, most notably from Jerusalem, Hamas will agree to a cease-fire with Israel. [passage omitted]

Jihad Expresses Interest in Dialogue With PA

TA1311123594 Tel Aviv IDF Radio in Hebrew 1100 GMT 13 Nov 94

[FBIS Translated Excerpt] Islamic Jihad activists in the Gaza Strip today expressed a willingness to hold negotiations with the Palestinian Authority [PA] in the wake of

This report may contain copyrighted material. Copying and dissemination is prohibited without permission of the copyright owners.

this weekend's wave of detentions. The activists say they want to prevent a civil war in the area. Among the dozens of Islamic Jihad activists detained in the Gaza Strip over the weekend and last night was one of their leaders, 'Abdallah al-Shami. Our correspondent in the south Eli Bohadana reports from the Gaza Strip:

[Begin Bohadana recording] Tense calm prevails in the Gaza Strip. Last night the Palestinian police carried out another wave of detentions. Some 50 activists were detained in this operation. So far some 150 Islamic Jihad activists have been detained. Contrary to the rumors in the Gaza Strip, the Palestinian police have not been able to apprehend 'Abdallah al-Shami, one of Islamic Jihad's leaders. Last night the Palestinian security forces detained Isma'il al-Shami, 'Abdallah's brother, who is also an Islamic Jihad activist. Another activist, 'Ala' al-Saftawi, is still at large and, according to Palestinian sources, is working at the Gaza municipality. Although he does not sleep at home, he walks around freely without any fear of being detained. Except for him, all the organization's senior members have gone underground. About one week ago most of the organization's leaders were authorized by the Palestinian police to bear arms for self-defense purposes following Hani 'Abid's assassination. [passage omitted] [end recording]

[Jerusalem Qol Yisra'el in Hebrew at 1105 GMT on 13 November includes a report by Yoni Ben-Menahem which adds: "The Islamic Jihad a short while ago issued a leaflet in which it criticizes the PA for the wave of detentions carried out among its activists. The leaflet criticizes the PA for burying the remains of Hisham Hamad, who carried out the Netzarim junction attack, without inviting his family for the burial. The leaflet adds: Why does the PA denounce Hisham Hamad's heroic act against the occupation soldiers while refraining from denouncing the despicable murder of Hani 'Abid, which was carried out in the area under its jurisdiction. The PA must not surrender to the incessant demands of the criminal Yitzhaq Rabin. The leaflet calls on the masses to participate in the symbolic funeral procession, which will depart from Hisham Hamad's house in the al-Shaykh Radwan neighborhood to the main Gaza mosque tomorrow evening. The masses must participate in the funeral in order to prove that they hold Hisham Hamad's blood dear."]

Hamas West Bank Leader for 'Dialogue' With Israel

TA1111073094 Jerusalem Qol Yisra'el in English 0500 GMT 11 Nov 94

[FBIS Transcribed Text] Shaykh Talal Sidr, one of the leaders of Hamas [Islamic Resistance Movement] in Judaea and Samaria, says he is in favor of a dialogue with Israel. He told a Qol Yisra'el reporter the Islamic Movement is opposed to the killing of civilians.

Qol Yisra'el's Arab affairs reporter says the Israeli authorities recently rejected requests from Hamas leaders in the West Bank to visit the Gaza Strip to coordinate their positions with the Hamas movement there.

Hamas Warns U.S. of Retaliation

NC1311212494 Paris AFP in English 1937 GMT 13 Nov 94

[FBIS Transcribed Text] Khartoum, Nov 13 (AFP)—A leader of the Islamic Resistance Movement Hamas warned here Sunday [13 November] that the fundamentalist group would target US interests if Washington carried out hostile actions against it.

"If the U.S. administration led by (Bill) Clinton wants to start a battle with Hamas, it won't be easy, because we are more capable of destroying U.S. interests than they are of killing us," said Muhammad 'Abd-al-Qadir Siyam, in an interview with the Sudanese weekly DARFUR AL-JADIDAH.

Siyam said Hamas, which is violently opposed to the Arab-Israeli peace process, had not yet carried out any actions hostile to the United States.

"But we are committed to international law, which grants each nation the right to resist and to fight against occupation.

"We are not afraid of threats from the United States or other parties," he said, referring to Clinton's appeal to Middle East countries to fight Hamas.

Clinton described Hamas as the "enemy of peace" during the signing of the historic Israeli-Jordanian peace treaty on October 26.

Siyam, 65, headed the Islamic University in Gaza for two years before the Palestinian intifadah, or uprising, erupted in December 1987. He went to Jordan and Sudan, where he is now a university teacher and a HAMAS leader abroad.

"We advise the United States to stay away from us. (Somali General Farah) Aidid, with his muddy boots, shortened the noses of Clinton and (former U.S. President George) Bush in Somalia, and Hamas has many activists of the same ilk," Siyam said.

Al-Zahhar: Hamas 'Not Prepared' for PA

TA1411104694 Jerusalem Qol Yisra'el in Hebrew 1000 GMT 14 Nov 94

[FBIS Translated Text] Dr. Mahmud al-Zahhar, one of the leaders of Hamas [Islamic Resistance Movement] in the Gaza Strip, has said that Hamas is prepared to participate in the Palestinian Authority's [PA] administrative apparatus to rehabilitate Palestinian society and institutions but that it is not prepared to participate in the PA itself.

Our correspondent Yoni Ben-Menahem reports that Dr. al-Zahhar denounced the international campaign being

This report may contain copyrighted material. Copying and dissemination is prohibited without permission of the copyright owners.

waged, as it were, by the West and the Arab regimes against Islam and the Islamic movements. He said that the whole world is awaiting the Islamic solution and that Islamic culture can compete with Western culture.

'Arafat: Group Meeting To Achieve National Unity

NC1111152194 Cairo MENA in Arabic 1312 GMT 11 Nov 94

[FBIS Translated Text] Gaza, 11 Nov (MENA)—Palestinian President Yasir 'Arafat has stated that efforts are under way to convene a political meeting of all national forces, organizations, and personalities in the Gaza Strip, both supporters and opponents, to achieve national unity on a democratic basis. He made this statement to AL-HAYAH in its first issue published today in the West Bank and Gaza. This is the third newspaper to be published in Gaza since the National Authority assumed its responsibilities in Gaza and Jericho. He said that several donor nations have pledged to provide the promised funds to spend on the early transfer of power. He expressed the hope that the meeting scheduled to convene in Paris soon will produce positive results.

'Arafat, Ministers Discuss Early Empowerment, Gaza

JN1311074294 Jericho Voice of Palestine in Arabic 0600 GMT 13 Nov 94

[FBIS Translated Text] His Excellency President Yasir 'Arafat, head of the National Authority [NA] yesterday chaired the weekly NA Council of Ministers meeting. His excellency President 'Arafat briefed the council members on the results of his meeting with Israeli Prime Minister Yitzhaq Rabin.

Al-Tayyib 'Abd-al-Rahim, secretary general of the presidency, told the Palestinian News Agency, WAFA, that the discussion during the meeting dealt with three major topics: early empowerment in the fields agreed upon, the initiation of negotiations on the entire transition stage, and the recurrent closure of the Gaza Strip and the West Bank and the perils this closure entails. Al-Tayyib 'Abd-al-Rahim added that His Excellency President 'Arafat told the council members that progress was achieved in the field of the transfer of powers scheduled to take place before the end of this month, including the responsibility for social affairs, tourism, youth and sports on 15 November. The responsibility for health and taxes will be transferred immediately after this and the Palestinian flag will be raised on these institutions, as it was previously raised on our educational institutions.

Al-Tayyib 'Abd-al-Rahim added that the second achievement that was highlighted by President 'Arafat consists of ending the deadlock with respect to starting negotiations on the implementation of the transition stage during which the Israeli Army will redeploy its forces, will leave residential areas, and elections will be held and laws will be reviewed.

Al-Tayyib 'Abd-al-Rahim added that the third achievement that 'Arafat had emphasized consisted of ending the closure that was imposed on the West Bank and the Gaza Strip.

'Arafat Meets With Ulemas, Welcomes Husayn's Remarks

JN1411071294 Jericho Voice of Palestine in Arabic 0600 GMT 14 Nov 94

[FBIS Translated Text] His Excellency President Yasir 'Arafat, head of the Palestinian National Authority, received in his office yesterday a Jerusalem Muslim ulema delegation led by Shaykh 'Ikrimah Sabri, mufti of Jerusalem and the holy places. Talks dealt with the situation of the Islamic holy places, particularly the Ibrahimi Mosque, and the Israeli measures that are aimed at turning it into a synagogue, and the Israeli practices against the holy places in Jerusalem.

In another development, President Yasir 'Arafat welcomed His Majesty King Husayn's statement that the Islamic holy places in Jerusalem are a trust with the Hashemite Kingdom of Jordan until the Palestinians spread their sovereignty over Jerusalem. He said the Jordanian monarch's position embodies the strong and distinguished fraternal relations between the Palestinian and Jordanian people and is in harmony with the Arab position and international legitimacy vis-a-vis Jerusalem.

Official Views 'Arafat-Husayn Contact, Ties

NC1111080194 Cairo Voice of the Arabs in Arabic 0610 GMT 11 Nov 94

[Telephone interview with Jamil al-Tarifi, member of the Palestinian Authority, in Ramallah on the West Bank, by Fayiz al-Miliji in Cairo; date not given; from the "Dialogue From Afar" program—recorded]

[FBIS Translated Excerpt] [Al-Miliji] Mr. al-Tarifi, good morning.

[Al-Tarifi] Good morning to you.

[Al-Miliji] The importance of coordination between the Palestinians and the Jordanians is now evident. In light of the telephone conversation between the Palestinian president and King Husayn of Jordan, what are the prospects of your joint work in the future.

[Al-Tarifi] I believe it is not strange, indeed it is only natural, for such a telephone contact to be held. We and the Jordanian people consider ourselves one people, not two. We always feel the need to continue full coordination to achieve integration between us and our brothers in Jordan. The telephone conversation that his excellency held with his majesty the king was not a surprise for us. We consider it an affirmation by the president of

This report may contain copyrighted material. Copying and dissemination is prohibited without permission of the copyright owners.

the importance of continued coordination between President 'Arafat and his majesty the king and between the Palestinian Authority and the Jordanian Government on all issues that relate to the future of the two peoples.

[Al-Miliji] But Mr. Minister, there have been preparations for a meeting between Palestinian President Yasir 'Arafat and His Majesty King Husayn of Jordan since the signing of the Palestinian-Israeli Declaration of Principles in Washington. Why has this summit not been held?

[Al-Tarifi] I think perhaps because of President 'Arafat's preoccupation with the situation in Gaza, his concern about the daily problems our people are facing, and his constant follow-up on these issues. It is also perhaps because of the preoccupation of our brothers in Jordan with preparations for their peace agreement with the Israeli Government. This could be why the meeting did not take place; there is no other reason. As you and everybody else remember, a high-level Palestinian delegation made two visits to Jordan to coordinate positions, and a number of Palestinian ministers made individual visits to coordinate with their Jordanian counterparts on many future issues of concern to the two peoples. [passage omitted]

National Authority To Honor Agreements With Israel

JN1211065294 Jericho Voice of Palestine in Arabic 0600 GMT 12 Nov 94

[FBIS Translated Text] Commenting on the explosion which took place in front of an Israeli Army position yesterday, Nabil Abu-Rudaynah, adviser to His Excellency President Yasir 'Arafat, chairman of the Palestinian National Authority [PNA], said in Gaza: The PNA will honor the agreements signed with the Israeli Government.

Investigation began regarding the incident in which Palestinians and Israelis were killed and wounded.

PLO Executive Committee To Hold 1st Gaza Meeting

JN1211161594 Jericho Voice of Palestine in Arabic 1515 GMT 12 Nov 94

[FBIS Translated Text] We have just learned that in its weekly meeting in Gaza today, the council of ministers of the Palestinian National Authority has called for holding the first meeting of the PLO Executive Committee in Gaza next Tuesday [15 November].

The Palestinian ministerial council, which was held under President Yasir 'Arafat, adopted several decisions related to funds Israel owes to the Palestinians, especially tax revenues. The council also discussed President 'Arafat meeting with [Israeli Prime Minister] Rabin at the Erez crossing, the peace negotiations, the security situation, the municipalities, and the health conditions.

Committee Member on Arrangements for Gaza Meeting

JN1311194294 Jericho Voice of Palestine in Arabic 1900 GMT 13 Nov 94

[FBIS Translated Text] Dr. Samir Ghawshah, member of the PLO Executive Committee, said today that the PLO Executive Committee is the point of reference for the Palestinian National Authority, adding that it is still the body which follows up national tasks on all levels. He said: The PLO was and still is the sole, legitimate representative of our Palestinian people.

Asked about the PLO Executive Committee's meeting for the first time in Gaza Tuesday, Ghawshah said: Arrangements have been made for the return of all members. He added that the PLO Executive Committee will discuss all matters and developments that have taken place since the recent meeting in Tunis. He said that this meeting also aims at reinforcing the role of the PLO so it can continue to play this role properly.

Sha'th on Dialogue With Hamas, Islamic Jihad

NC1311194394 Cairo MENA in Arabic 1720 GMT 13 Nov 94

[FBIS Translated Excerpt] Rafah, 13 Nov (MENA)—Dr. Nabil Sha'th, minister of planning and international cooperation in the Palestinian National Authority [PNA], has stated that his talks with Egyptian officials in Cairo today and tomorrow will focus on completing the economic agreement and trade cooperation with Egypt. Dr. Sha'th added that he will reach an agreement to promote Egyptian exports to the self-rule areas.

In a statement at the Rafah land crossing en route to Cairo at noon today, Dr. Sha'th said that it has been agreed to link Egyptian natural gas with the Gaza Strip, to increase the imports of Egyptian goods, and to encourage Egyptian companies to market their products in the self-rule areas. He said that this step would help the self- rule areas dispense with Israeli goods, noting that Egyptian mineral water has actually started to pervade the self-rule areas.

Dr. Sha'th added that he will hold talks with Foreign Minister 'Amr Musa on how to advance the self-rule negotiations and ease the Israeli procedures regarding Egyptian goods. He said that Israel insists on imposing duty on these goods three times over that imposed on European and foreign goods.

The Palestinian official stressed that his talks with Foreign Minister 'Amr Musa will also touch on the outstanding issues in light of the 'Arafat-Rabin meeting last week. He noted that the talks will deal with other issues, including the efforts required to implement the early transfer of powers and to negotiate on the entire transition period, the economic blockade resulting from the repeated closure of the Gaza Strip and West Bank, and

This report may contain copyrighted material. Copying and dissemination is prohibited without permission of the copyright owners.

the partition of the Ibrahimi Mosque, as well as the dangers inherent in these issues to the peace process. [passage omitted]

Continuing his statement, Dr. Sha'th said that soon an Egyptian liaison office will open in Gaza and will serve as an embassy in terms of specialities and duties. This office will strengthen the relations between the Egyptian and Palestinian peoples, Dr. Sha'th added. [words indistinct]

Dr. Sha'th said that the political dialogue with the opponents of the peace agreement with Israel is continuing. He reiterated that the Palestinian Authority's [PA] stance on the issue of dialogue with the opposition groups has not changed. Dr. Sha'th emphasized that the dialogue with these groups and factions will be conducted through peaceful democratic means. He said that the dialogue is a political commitment regardless of the legal stance of some members of Hamas [Islamic Resistance Movement] and the Islamic Jihad. The dialogue will be conducted according to the law so that security and order will prevail in the self-rule and PNA areas.

Commenting on the stance of the donor states, Dr. Sha'th said that there has been no change, adding that no financial assistance has yet reached them. He said that these countries have become denial-of-relief states [duwal mani'ah] and that they are currently bringing pressure to bear on the Palestinians.

Settlements Blamed for 'Tenuous' Gaza Security

TA1211143094 Jerusalem Qol Yisra'el in Hebrew 1400 GMT 12 Nov 94

[FBIS Translated Text] Nabil Sha'th, one of the Palestinian Authority [PA] heads, says that acting on intelligence information, the Palestinian security forces have detained suspects implicated in yesterday's attack near the Netzarim junction, and they are being interrogated. Our correspondent Yoni Ben-Menahem reports that so far, the Palestinian police have detained 120 Islamic Jihad activists, although the movement's leaders remain underground. Sha'th made these remarks after the weekly PA meeting, which dealt with the Netzarim attack and its impact on the peace process.

Dr. Sha'th added that the security situation can be resolved by disbanding the settlements still remaining in the Strip. Another PA member, Furayh Abu-Middayn, also asserted that the tenuous security in the Strip stems from the existence of settlements.

Security Measures Around 'Arafat Detailed

TA1311165394 Jerusalem New Channel 2 Television Network in Hebrew 1500 GMT 13 Nov 94

[Studio interview with Jacques Neriya by moderator Rafi Reshef on the "Five O'clock With Rafi Reshef" program—live]

[FBIS Translated Excerpt] [Reshef] Jacques Neriya met today with Yasir 'Arafat. They signed a trade federation agreement. Good evening, Mr. Jacques Neriya.

[Neriya] Good evening.

[Reshef] We will later watch a video recording of remarks made by the brother of the 11 November suicide bomber. However, let me first ask you something. You have met with Yasir 'Arafat several times in the past. How different did he look today?

[Neriya] I think that today was the first time I sensed a certain tension in the Gaza Strip which I did not encounter on previous visits. I was rather surprised to see fresh graffiti on the walls denouncing the Palestinian Authority [PA] as collaborators with the Zionists. There were also slogans vilifying the prime minister. I arrived at the meeting before 'Arafat and his entourage and watched the PLO chairman as he entered his office. I was very impressed with the heightened security measures taken prior to 'Arafat's arrival, which were of unprecedented scope. In my opinion, this indicates some sort of a problem.

[Reshef] Was there any apologetic tone to 'Arafat's statements? Did he attempt to explain things or simply say that he can never foil individual suicide attacks?

[Neriya] Obviously we discussed the issue. 'Arafat condemned the attack and noted the fact that a Palestinian officer had been seriously wounded as well as four other Palestinians. The PLO chairman explained that the attacks were the result of two things: the lack of progress in the political sphere and the Palestinians' economic distress.

[Reshef] Did you receive the impression that the reaction will be different this time? We heard that several dozen or hundreds of activists had been arrested. Did you receive the impression that the Palestinian authorities have decided to fight this time or will the attempts to achieve peaceful coexistence continue?

[Neriya] Look, I do not think we can expect another Altalena [reference to Irgun arms ship blown up on Ben-Gurion's orders in June 1948], but the PA is fully aware that the activities of the Islamic Jihad and Hamas [Islamic Resistance Movement] are a threat and that these organizations seek to politically destroy 'Arafat. I do not believe the PA has reached the conclusion that these organizations also seek 'Arafat's physical destruction. Therefore, what I witnessed and also understood was that efforts are being taken in two directions: First and foremost, an attempt is being made to undermine Hamas and the Islamic Jihad by employing continuous military pressure—as of today, approximately 350 or 360 Islamic Jihad activists have been arrested and this time 'Arafat issued a carte blanche to the Palestinian security services to act against Islamic Jihad. On the other hand, attempts are being made to incorporate Hamas into the elections and the PA. [passage omitted]

This report may contain copyrighted material. Copying and dissemination is prohibited without permission of the copyright owners.

VOP Urges 'Confidence-Building' Measures

JN1211192794 Jericho Voice of Palestine in Arabic 1530 GMT 12 Nov 94

[Unattributed "political commentary" entitled: "Mutual Peace Obligations"]

[FBIS Translated Text] The incident at the Netzarim military junction demonstrates a continuous escalation of the phenomenon of violence. Apparently the peace march has neither ended violence nor reduced its size and tone. This obliges us and the Israeli side to pause at this paradox, ascertain its causes, and find a way out of this dilemma.

The Palestinian people have given ample proof of their belief in the need to coexist with Israel and realize peace with its people, thus effecting a qualitative transformation in their stand. Such proof includes the following:

1. The peaceful, popular nature of the intifadah which unified the Palestinian people around one cause; namely, deliverance from the Israeli occupation through peaceful protests that took the form of civil disobedience. The losses were confined to the Palestinian side and the Israeli losses were very limited. The use of arms by the Palestinian people and their nationalist movement was very rare. We all remember the phenomenon of handing over to the Israeli authorities captured arms belonging to the agents.

2. The Palestine National Council adopted the Palestinian peace initiative in response to the Palestinian people's peaceful mood as reflected by the intifadah; an initiative which recognized for the first time the State of Israel and demanded the establishment of the state of Palestine next to it.

3. The Palestinian people received the Palestinian delegation which returned from the Madrid peace conference with mammoth celebrations, affirming their overwhelming desire for peace. The manifestations of violence then disappeared.

4. The Palestinian people received President Yasir 'Arafat and the PLO leadership members, who signed the Declaration of Principles in Washington and came to translate peace on Palestinian territory, with extreme warmth and unparalleled support. The great reception accorded to this leadership constituted a popular referendum in support of peace and peacemakers.

On the other hand, the successive Israeli governments adopted antipeace stands. The stand of the present government continues to be resistant to realizing peace with the Palestinian people. This stand includes:

1. Rejecting the Palestinian peace initiative and pursuing the policy of killing hundreds of the intifadah people, breaking the bones of demonstrators, besieging and starving the Palestinian people, and carrying out arrests and collective deportation.

2. Shackling the Declaration of Principles with impracticable, complex conditions and maintaining the Gaza Strip settlements. Forty percent of the Gaza Strip area was earmarked for the protection of 4,500 settlers, whereas 1 million Palestinian live on the remainder; that is, 60 percent of the Gaza Strip. The Netzarim settlement where 13 Israeli families reside, protected by many times their number of soldiers, was maintained.

3. Continuing the previous occupation policy and refusing to adopt confidence-building measures to push the Palestinian-Israeli peace forward, such as the release of detainees, the lifting of the siege on Arab Jerusalem, and other measures.

The Israeli policy, which continues to be characterized by intransigence, has not forced the majority of the Palestinian people to reject peace but has revived the phenomenon of violence in certain Palestinian peoples' circles and trends. It has been proven that the more intransigent the Israeli side becomes and the more it uses coercion, humiliation, and economic pressure against the Palestinians, the more reactions and acts of violence take place. The current problem now does not lie in the presence of armed groups here and there. The problem lies in the increasing popular sympathy with these reactions. This problem is not solved by using administrative and technical methods or by methods of isolation to prevent friction between the Palestinian people and the Israeli occupation forces. Killing violence at the roots can only be obtained by confidence-building measures which will establish Israel's good intentions and hasten the solution which will make any acts of violence alien to the Palestinian people who thirst for peace. Only then will violence cease and peace prevail.

Palestinian Press Review on West Bank, Gaza

94P50012A

[FBIS Media Note] This Media Note contains information on developments in West Bank-Gaza politics, economics, agriculture, education, and health care from the Arabic and English-language Palestinian press.

Permits Required for Political Gatherings in Cultural Centers

According to an article in the 3 October Jerusalem newspaper AL-MANAR, the Palestinian Authority's Gazan police force has sent notices to the heads of all of Gaza's cultural centers informing them that police permits will now be required for political gatherings of any kind in their institutions.

The decree is reportedly based on "a 1967 police edict," and the recipients included the Rishad al-Shawa Cultural Center, the YMCA, al-Azhar University, and al-Jala' Cinema.

Gaza Shopkeepers Face Eviction by Municipality

The 13 September issue of the Jerusalem daily AL-NAHAR reports that the Rent and Collection Department of the municipality of Gaza has issued eviction

This report may contain copyrighted material. Copying and dissemination is prohibited without permission of the copyright owners.

notices to residents and shop owners in the "Suq Firas" area, giving them 15 days to vacate their shops and homes. The eviction notices cite nonpayment of rent over a period of many years as the basis for the action.

The Suq Al-Firas shop owners claim they have been paying 100 guineas per month in rent and that they are now being asked to pay 200 guineas per month.

They complain that their businesses stagnated during the eight years of the intifadah, and that the municipality is demanding they vacate their shops rather than dealing with them equitably.

Al-Quds Press Denies Connection With Hamas Office in Nabulus

Al-Quds Press Service has denied any connection with a Nabulus office raided on 21 September by the Israeli intelligence service and claims it has no office whatsoever in Nabulus, according to a 22 September report in the Jerusalem daily AL-QUDS.

The AL-QUDS article states that Israeli radio reported that an Israeli military unit searched two offices in Nabulus which it said belonged to Hamas.

One was reported to be an Al-Quds Press Service office headed by Jamal Mansur, a returnee from exile in Marj al-Zuhur, Lebanon, and the other was said to be a Zakat Committee office belonging to Hamas.

Entrepreneur To Sell Land to Police in Khan Yunis

The 18 September issue of the Jerusalem daily AL-QUDS reports that Palestinian entrepreneur 'Adnan al-Rantisi announced that as of 17 September of this year he would begin selling land in Khan Yunis to members of the Palestinian Authority's police and security forces who have come from abroad.

Forty-eight 180-square-meter lots will be sold for approximately 3,000 Jordanian dinars each.

Al-Rantisi said he would also do something similar in Jericho to help solve the housing problems created by increased land and rent prices.

'Arafat 'Promised' To Set Up University in Janin

Yasir 'Arafat has "promised" to establish a university in the West Bank city of Janin at an estimated cost of $25 million, according to an article in the 15 September issue of the Jerusalem daily AL-NAHAR. A delegation from the Janin Education and Training Organization, led by Janin's director of education and training, Mahmud Muhamid, recently visited 'Arafat with a list of demands and was promised the establishment of this university.

Jericho Banana Farmers Blame Prices, Jordan for Crisis

Banana farmers in Jericho fear they will be unable to sell this year's crop due to low banana prices and Jordan's ban on importing Palestinian produce, according to the 22 September issue of the Jerusalem daily AL-QUDS and the 30 September issue of the Jerusalem weekly THE JERUSALEM TIMES.

The farmers say much of the crop will have to be destroyed if they cannot find a market soon.

The price of bananas has fallen dramatically this year, and farmers are unable to compete with the low price of Israeli bananas.

The farmers have been denied import permits by Jordanian officials and have tried unsuccessfully to get assistance from the Palestinian Authority. They have issued an appeal saying: "We call on all officials to save hundreds of families in this sector who depend mostly on agriculture for their living."

This report may contain copyrighted material. Copying and dissemination is prohibited without permission of the copyright owners.

Algeria

Egypt's Musa Comments After Talks With Zeroual

LD1211205394 Algiers ENTV Television Network in Arabic 1900 GMT 12 Nov 94

[FBIS Translated Text] President Liamine Zeroual today received Egyptian Foreign Minister 'Amr Musa. 'Amr Musa made the following statement after the meeting:

[Begin Musa recording] I conveyed a message from President Husni Mubarak to President Liamine Zeroual on the importance of bolstering Egyptian-Algerian ties in various fields, particularly the economic and trade sectors, and also on strengthening bilateral cooperation. This is in addition to political coordination.

I received a message from President Zeroual for President Mubarak, which I will take home with me tomorrow.

Our talks revolved around Egypt's participation in the Arab Maghreban Union [AMU] meeting and its desire to join the grouping as an observer.

We also discussed developments in the peace process and regional cooperation in general. We agreed to soon convene the joint Egyptian-Algerian committee so as to bolster ties between the two countries. [end recording]

FLN: Presidential Election Will Worsen Crisis

LD1011194194 Paris Radio France International in French 1830 GMT 10 Nov 94

[FBIS Translated Text] In Algeria, Hocine Ait Ahmed, the leader of the Socialist Forces Front, said the silence of France and the international community in the face of the violence that is tearing up his country is scandalous. Hocine Ait Ahmed said that between 150 and 200 people are killed every day in Algeria.

Here is the reaction of the National Liberation Front [FLN], which is a bit late, to the decision of President Zeroual to organize presidential elections next year. According to the FLN, this decision is unilateral and, I quote, it contains orientations and objectives that will worsen the crisis.

49 'Terrorists' Killed Between 6-12 Nov

LD1311185994 Algiers Radio Algiers Network in French 1800 GMT 13 Nov 94

[FBIS Translated Text] We learned today that 49 "terrorists" were killed by the security forces between last Sunday [6 November] and yesterday, Saturday [12 November]. This came in a statement released by the security services. The operations took place in Algiers, its suburb Blida, Boumerdes, Relizane Province, Constantine Province, Khlef, Skikda Province, Bouira, Merouana, near Batna, and Oum El Bouaghi. Firearms, explosives, grenades, and documents were recovered, the statement by the security services added.

Egypt

Musa Comments on Issues, Departs for AMU Meeting

Welcomes Iraqi Decision

NC1011194694 Cairo Arab Republic of Egypt Radio Network in Arabic 1830 GMT 10 Nov 94

[FBIS Translated Text] Foreign Minister 'Amr Musa will leave Cairo tomorrow on his way to Algiers to chair the Egyptian delegation to the meeting of the foreign ministers of the Arab Maghreb Union [AMU], which will open in the Algerian capital Saturday [12 November].

The foreign minister pointed out that Egypt's participation in the coming AMU meeting represents a new step toward consolidating cooperation among North African Arab states.

'Amr Musa noted that Egypt is currently considering the issue of joining the AMU, pointing out that Egypt will attend the new AMU session as an observer.

In another development, Musa gave a statement to our radio correspondent, in which he commented on the Iraqi Government decision to officially recognize Kuwait's borders.

He said: We can only welcome this important decision, which is the recognition of Kuwait as an independent, sovereign state within the borders determined by the UN Security Council.

The foreign minister added that this recognition represents an important and positive step on the road to addressing the situation in Iraq. He added: It is important to reemphasize the importance of the decision, of preserving the integrity and unity of the Iraqi territories, as well as the need to curb the sufferings of the fraternal Iraqi people.

Musa further said: Iraq's decision to recognize Kuwait is a major and important decision, because originally the problem was that Iraq viewed Kuwait as an Iraqi governorate. Hence, he continued, the Iraqi recognition of the state of Kuwait ends the original problem, leaving a number of other problems that need to be settled.

In conclusion, Musa reiterated that the Iraqi decision is important and positive.

Views Algerian Ties, Bosnian Embargo

NC1111140294 Cairo Arab Republic of Egypt Radio Network in Arabic 1230 GMT 11 Nov 94

[FBIS Translated Text] Foreign Minister 'Amr Musa left Cairo this afternoon for Algeria to attend the meetings of

This report may contain copyrighted material. Copying and dissemination is prohibited without permission of the copyright owners.

the foreign ministers of the Arab Maghreb Union [AMU], which will open tomorrow.

Speaking before his departure, Musa stated that he is carrying a message from President Husni Mubarak to Algerian President Liamine Zeroual. He added that his visit to Algeria will provide an opportunity to hold talks with his Algerian counterpart, noting that he looks forward to the talks he will have with the Algerian prime minister and other officials to discuss Arab affairs and to consolidate Egyptian-Algerian ties. Musa pointed out that this is the first time Egypt will take part in the AMU meetings. This signals a new development toward cementing ties among the North African states to face the tremendous changes that the region is experiencing, he added.

Asked if Iraq's decision to officially recognize the State of Kuwait will lead to the restoration of inter-Arab relations, Musa said that the Arab League Secretary General had pointed out that this decision could help him achieve inter-Arab reconciliation. He added that Egypt hopes this will happen.

Asked about U.S. President Clinton's decision to stop enforcing the ban on arms supplies to the Bosnian Government effective midnight tomorrow, Musa stated that this is a sound and positive decision in view of the continued Serbian aggression and the Bosnian Serbs' failure to recognize the maps and proposals submitted. He added: The Bosnian Government's legitimate right to self-defense must be supported.

Kuwaiti Foreign Minister on Damascus Declaration

NC0911152994 Cairo MENA in Arabic 1317 GMT 9 Nov 94

[FBIS Translated Text] Cairo, 9 Nov (MENA)—Shaykh Sabah al-Ahmad al-Sabah, Kuwaiti deputy prime minister and foreign minister, has affirmed that Egypt carries weight both in the region and the entire Arab world.

In an interview with Friday's [11 November] edition of the weekly magazine AL-MUSAWWAR, Shaykh al-Sabah said: We are pleased that Egypt is a partner with us in the Damascus Declaration. He said he expects that to be something that will have major significance.

He said the Declaration has not stumbled, contrary to rumors, adding: We take pride in and are pleased at that grouping with our brothers in Egypt and Syria.

The Kuwaiti foreign minister remarked that there might be differences in economic viewpoints but these are not political differences. He noted that the signatories agree on many things.

Shaykh al-Sabah noted that the Damascus Declaration will carry much weight. But he remarked that it will not be targeted against the Arab world and that it will be within the framework of the Arab League.

The Kuwaiti minister denied that the United States is putting on the pressure to preclude the implementation of the Declaration's military aspect. He said that America and the whole Western world support the Declaration fully.

Shaykh al-Sabah was asked about the chances of lifting the embargo on Iraq partially if it recognizes Kuwait's existence and borders to curb people's suffering. He replied that the UN Security Council resolutions are binding on all, both in Kuwait and Iraq. There are resolutions other than those concerning Kuwait's existence and border, al-Sabah said, noting that recognition of Kuwait was the case from the beginning, since there has been an Iraqi ambassador in Kuwait and a Kuwaiti ambassador in Baghdad for 30 years.

The Kuwaiti minister expressed the hope that Iraq will implement all the UN Security Council resolutions, including the resolution on the POW's and detainees, pointing out that it is in Iraq's interest to take the initiative and implement the resolutions to lift the embargo and curb the suffering.

He affirmed that there are no differences among the allied states concerning the UN Security Council resolutions, because all have voted on them and are bound by them. He pointed out that the party that can judge whether Iraq has complied with the resolutions is the committee in charge of that task. The whole affair is up to the UN Security Council members, he said.

There must be some kind of reconciliation and restoration of confidence in the Arab world. Confidence was lost by the Iraqi invasion of Kuwait, al-Sabah said, remarking that reconciliation can only be achieved after resolving the Kuwait issue.

Asked about seeking the help of Western troops to safeguard Kuwait's security, Shaykh al-Sabah said: We had to do that, since the Arab nation has no alternative capable of protecting Kuwait, particularly after our country was occupied.

He was asked why the U.S. secretary of state and British foreign secretary attended the recent meeting of the Gulf Cooperation Council [GCC]. He said Christopher and Hurd were not invited but attended spontaneously and on their own initiative following the recent crisis. He said the two secretaries' meeting with the GCC states did not take place during the private GCC meeting. It was a meeting for consultations and was held in a different hall, contrary to what some people mistakenly thought, al-Sabah remarked.

The Kuwaiti foreign minister denied that Iran recently offered to conduct joint maneuvers with Kuwait. That has not happened, he said, adding: We cooperate when it comes to infiltrators across the border. We agreed that both navies will get together to coordinate action concerning trespassing by various infiltrators.

This report may contain copyrighted material. Copying and dissemination is prohibited without permission of the copyright owners.

On the Iranian armament drive and whether it poses a threat to Gulf security, the Kuwaiti foreign minister said: We are not a major state that can discuss that issue, concerning Iran or any other state. But, he added, I hope the money being spent on armament, both in Iran and in our country, will be allocated to construction and developing our states and people. We also hope the tension, anticipation, and concern will be eliminated.

Asked about Arab League Secretary General Dr. 'Ismat 'Abd-al-Majid's remark that the Arab summit is [word missing as received] and that Arab reconciliation will only be achieved on the summit level, the Kuwaiti minister said: Before we can think of an Arab summit, we must ask ourselves where things stand. Problems are still pending and no summit can be held until these problems are solved.

Asked about the GCC states' decision to lift the secondary and tertiary Arab boycott of Israel, Shaykh Sabah said that Kuwait was the first state to announce lifting the boycott on these levels three years ago. We badly needed to deal with foreign companies to rebuild Kuwait, he said. He refused to see in that step any kind of eagerness or haste to deal with Israel.

He asked: Where is the boycott of Israel in the Arab world? And he noted that, even before Egypt concluded its agreement with Israel, some Arab states were not observing a boycott of Israel.

He said that lifting the boycott does not weaken Syria's negotiating position with Israel. We stand with Syria heart and soul and hope a settlement will be achieved on the Syrian track as soon as possible so that Syria will receive all its land without exception.

The Kuwaiti minister denied Israeli claims about starting Kuwaiti-Israeli investments, meetings between the chambers of trade in both countries, and starting Gulf Air flights to Israel. He said this has not happened, at least not as far as Kuwait is concerned. I am talking here in Kuwait's name, not on behalf of anyone else, he said, adding: We do not object to this out of antipathy toward peace. Indeed, we support peace and bless it.

The Kuwaiti deputy prime minister expressed the hope that the dispute between Iran and the United Arab Emirates will be resolved peacefully rather than through threats.

Kuwaiti Ambassador on Doubts Over Iraq's Recognition

NC1111191994 Cairo MENA in Arabic 1715 GMT 11 Nov 94

[FBIS Translated Text] Cairo, 11 Nov (MENA)—Kuwait's Ambassador in Cairo 'Abd-al-Rahman al-Bu'ayjan has said he hopes Iraq is sincere in its recognition of the State of Kuwait, its independence, border, and sovereignty in accordance with Security Council Resolution 833.

In exclusive remarks to MENA, the Kuwaiti ambassador stressed the need for Iraq to prove its credibility regarding its recognition of Kuwait by clearing its school textbooks and literary works of hostility and hatred as well as references to the painful memories experienced by Kuwait, the Gulf states, and all those who stood with Kuwait in its predicament. He sent greetings to all those who sided with Kuwait long enough to make Iraq reach this stage of recognizing Kuwait's independence, border, and sovereignty.

Ambassador al-Bu'ayjan added that Iraq's decision to recognize Kuwait requires—and this is what we hope for—another decision to release the prisoners and pledge to return the assets that belong to Kuwaitis. He noted that when this is done, we could say there has been a start and a real change that could result in changes. The ambassador expressed concern that the Iraqi recognition could be temporary. He added: We are excused for saying that, because Iraq goes from one position to another. Iraq could claim that its recognition of Kuwait came under pressure and in the face of Soviet and U.S. power, forcing it to do so, and that the time had come to change positions.

The Kuwaiti ambassador noted that Iraq did the same thing before, when it tore up the agreement signed with Iran in 1974, its agreement with Kuwait in 1963, and other pledges that Iraq breached and never honored.

Ambassador al-Bu'ayjan stressed that Iraq's recognition is clear evidence that Iraq failed earlier to honor its obligations, contrary to what some people thought. Proof of this is that Iraq is now recognizing Kuwait's independence, sovereignty, and border, while it should have done so four years ago, he added. The Kuwaiti ambassador emphasized that Iraq must implement all other Security Council resolutions. He noted in this regard the need for the Arabs and people everywhere to help Iraq comply with the remaining Security Council resolutions so that it can fulfill its obligations toward the Iraqi people.

Asked if he believes that Iraq's recognition of Kuwait is a step toward mending the Arab rift and the beginning of Arab reconciliation according to the initiative announced by the Arab League secretary general, the Kuwaiti ambassador said that nobody believes more in or is more sincere toward Arabism than Kuwait, as proved by its record. He noted that if Iraq is sincere and proves it will follow a new attitude, this could be a step on the road. But the Kuwaiti ambassador hastened to add: I have reservations on this, because it is very hard for Iraq, with its known leadership, to adopt a new attitude, because its leadership has a revengeful mentality and does not admit its defeats.

Efforts To Return Iraq to 'Arab Family' Viewed

NC1111151694 Cairo Arab Republic of Egypt Radio Network in Arabic 1240 GMT 11 Nov 94

[Commentary by Ahmad Sha'ban: "A Step That Needs To Be Followed By Other Steps on the Same Level"]

This report may contain copyrighted material. Copying and dissemination is prohibited without permission of the copyright owners.

[FBIS Translated Excerpt] The Iraqi Government's latest decision to officially recognize Kuwait's sovereignty and border, in accordance with Security Council resolutions and in compliance with Resolution 833, can only be welcomed, Foreign Minister 'Amr Musa stated. While following up and dealing with Iraq's new decision, we must not look around behind us, instead we must look ahead. The Iraqi step, regardless of the circumstances in which it was taken or the motives behind it, responds to an important Security Council resolution on the Gulf crisis. Thus, the Iraqi announcement, made by the Iraqi legislative authority and in the presence of the Iraqi president [as heard], constitutes a documented and official recognition and as such is a step that deserves commendation. But the important question here is: Will Iraq continue to take further steps to end the abnormal conditions in the region as a whole, resulting from its invasion of Kuwait, or will it stop there?

While pointing out that it is a constructive step, we also say that it needs further steps to implement the remaining UN resolutions, thus leaving no room for any source of tension and wiping out all the negative traces of the Iraqi invasion. We particularly refer here to the issue of the Kuwaiti and other detainees held in Iraq, which is commonly known as the prisoners issue.

The suffering of the Iraqi people, of which Iraq is complaining as the result of the continuing sanctions against it, disturbs all Arabs, not just the Iraqis. It also pains Kuwait. The Kuwaiti officials, on the highest level, have repeatedly emphasized that they are pained by the suffering of the Iraqi people and that the solution to their problem is not in the hands of Kuwait or the United Nations, but in the hands of the ruling regime in Baghdad. Only the regime's recognition of, compliance with, and implementation of UN resolutions will lead to lifting the sanctions on Iraq, thus ending the suffering and the economic blockade of the Iraqi people. Iraq's full implementation of the UN resolutions will provide suitable ground for ending the Iraqi people's suffering and will open the door for clearing the Arab atmosphere and restoring Arab solidarity. It also will get Iraq back into the Arab family so that it can play its role among its brothers. [passage omitted]

Paper Discusses Iraqi Recognition of Kuwait

NC1311090494 Cairo MENA in Arabic 0604 GMT 13 Nov 94

[FBIS Translated Text] Cairo, 13 Nov (MENA)—The newspaper AL-AHRAM has described the official and confirmed Iraqi recognition of Kuwait as an important step. It pointed out that this issue has been pending for decades, since before the Iraqi invasion of Kuwait.

The newspaper affirmed in its comment in today's issue that the Iraqi recognition of Kuwait is of great importance and ends the problems that controlled Iraq's policy of claiming that Kuwait is an Iraqi governorate. It also finalizes the issue of the new border demarcation, which was fixed by the United Nations committee and rejected by the Iraqi Government.

Daily on Support for Syria's Negotiating Position

NC1111070794 Cairo MENA in Arabic 0605 GMT 11 Nov 94

[FBIS Translated Text] Cairo, 11 Nov (MENA)—AL-AHRAM stresses that Israel's continuing attempts to transcend the Syrian position will not succeed because all the Arab countries as well as the world community are in solidarity with Syria to achieve a peaceful solution.

In its editorial today, the paper says Israel is trying to reap the economic fruits of peace before it is achieved, imagining that it can transcend the Syrian position. What the Israeli leadership should understand, the paper says, is that the land-for-peace equation is an Arab one that concerns all the Arab countries, not only those who have parts of their territory occupied. Indeed, AL-AHRAM adds, the exchange of land for peace is an international formula sponsored by the entire world, notably the United States and Russia.

The paper notes President Mubarak's remarks during his recent meeting with members of the parliamentary block of the National Democratic Party that Egypt is fully intent on supporting Syria's negotiating position and refusing to enter any regional arrangements before Syria restores all its territory.

AL-AHRAM stresses that strengthening Syrian-Egyptian cooperation and coordination is a pressing need for the brothers in Syria. From this premise, it says, Cairo always opens its heart to any guest from Syria. In this respect, the paper mentions the visit Syrian Foreign Minister Faruq al-Shar' recently paid to Cairo.

Daily Cited on U.S. Decision on Bosnia Embargo

NC1411094494 Cairo MENA in Arabic 0640 GMT 14 Nov 94

[FBIS Translated Text] Cairo, 14 Nov (MENA)—AL-AHRAM warns against military escalation by the Serb forces in Bosnia-Herzegovina. It says current developments in that country show that all sides are paying the price of complicated international calculations and of resorting to the military option to resolve the conflict.

The paper says in an editorial appearing in today's issue that the U.S. decision to stop policing the ban on arms to Bosnia and Croatia cannot be viewed as favoring Bosnian Muslims because it was not followed by another decision providing the Bosnian Government with arms.

The paper says the U.S. decision, ostensibly serving the Bosnian Government forces, is a step to encourage

This report may contain copyrighted material. Copying and dissemination is prohibited without permission of the copyright owners.

escalation in the military clashes. It will prompt all sides to the conflict to give the military option precedence over a peaceful solution—which is beneficial to the Bosnian Serbs because they receive weapons from the motherland Serbia or smuggled from other Balkan countries.

Concluding, AL-AHRAM calls on the United States, if it is serious about resolving the Bosnian conflict, to take practical measures in coordination with all other international sides to curb the worsening military confrontations in Bosnia.

This report may contain copyrighted material. Copying and dissemination is prohibited without permission of the copyright owners.

Kuwaiti Prime Minister Opens GCC Council

LD1311125694 Kuwait Radio Kuwait in Arabic 1000 GMT 13 Nov 94

[FBIS Translated Excerpt] Under the auspices of his highness the amir, Shaykh Sa'd al-'Abdallah Al-Salim al-Sabah, the heir apparent and prime minister, at 0930 hours this morning opened the faithfulness gathering of the consultative councils and national assemblies of the GCC [Gulf Cooperation Council] countries.

The meeting began with a recitation from the holy Koran, followed by the following address on behalf of his highness the amir:

[Begin al-Sabah recording] In the name of God, the merciful, and the compassionate, prayers and peace be upon the last prophet and the most honorable messenger. [passage omitted]

The GCC has proved its effectiveness at the hour of testing, when one of its members was exposed to unlawful aggression and an evil occupation. The GCC countries stood by an attacked sister country to confront the aggressor in a unified manner. They spoke with one voice in support of Kuwaiti rights and the war against the Iraqi regime's aggression. They engaged their capabilities, potential, and forces in the battle of liberation. [passage omitted]

Honorable brothers, the critical stage our region is passing through and the great dangers and challenges that we face together dictate that we rally our ranks, unify our stands and utterances, and double our coordination and cooperation. This is the only way to protect our security and interests in the shadow of a new international order fraught with developments and variables.

We must, brothers, speed up our efforts to realize the comprehensive development process of our societies so that we can accompany the procession of world progress that is advancing with great speed and to ensure a dignified life and a prosperous future for our future generations. [passage omitted] [end recording]

Saudi Minister Opens GCC Defense Meeting

LD1211151194 Riyadh Saudi Arabian Kingdom Radio Network in Arabic 1430 GMT 12 Nov 94

[FBIS Translated Text] The proceedings of the 13th meeting of their highnesses and excellencies the defense ministers of the Gulf Cooperation Council [GCC] have begun under the chairmanship of His Royal Highness [HRH] Prince Sultan Bin-'Abd-al-'Aziz, second deputy prime minister, minister of defense and aviation, and inspector general.

HRH Prince Sultan Bin-'Abd al-Aziz made a speech. He welcomed the ministers and expressed his hope that the meeting's outcome would lead to the building of strong countries that can defend their interests and peoples and protect peace.

Afterwards, his excellency the GCC Secretary General Shaykh Fahim al-Qasimi made a speech in which he pointed out that the critical situation facing the region requires a speedy implementation of the decisions made by the GCC Higher Council at the Riyadh 14th summit, meeting on the need for bolstering and developing military cooperation between the GCC member countries and for overcoming all difficulties, proceeding from a conviction that there will be no prosperity or development without security, tranquillity, and stability.

After the speech, the meeting was held in-camera.

Kuwait To Continue Rebuilding Army

LD1311143894 Kuwait KUNA in Arabic 1215 GMT 13 Nov 94

[FBIS Translated Text] Riyadh, 13 Nov—Kuwaiti Defense Minister Shaykh Ahmad al-Humud has affirmed that Kuwait's military preparations will be implemented in accordance with the complete prepared study and will not be affected by the recent Iraqi recognition of Kuwait.

Al-Humud told KUNA after the end of the GCC [Gulf Cooperation Council] defense ministers meeting today in Riyadh: "We will continue to rebuild the Kuwaiti Army most forcefully in order to defend Kuwait and its brothers in the GCC."

On the other hand, Prince Sultan Bin-'Abd-al-'Aziz, Saudi second deputy prime minister, minister of defense and aviation, and inspector general, denied that there were differing points of view about strengthening the peninsula shield forces that the six GCC states have participated in building.

Prince Sultan, who cochaired the meeting with Shaykh Sultan, added that several issues of common interest—particularly economic relations—(?had been discussed) and pointed out that he had a meeting earlier today with a number of American economic figures here who expressed their readiness to develop relations with the UAE [United Arab Emirates]. [passage indistinct]

Defense Ministers Meeting Ends

LD1311151994 Riyadh SPA in Arabic 1300 GMT 13 Nov 94

[FBIS Translated Excerpt] Riyadh, 13 Nov 94, SPA—Their highnesses and excellencies, the GCC [Gulf Cooperation Council] defense ministers, left the old airport of Riyadh at midday today. [passage omitted]

At the end of the final session, His Royal Highness Prince Sultan Bin-'Abd-al-'Aziz delivered the following speech:

This report may contain copyrighted material. Copying and dissemination is prohibited without permission of the copyright owners.

In the name of God, the merciful and compassionate, I close this blessed session, in which brothers met for the good and worked in order to serve our faithful Islamic and Arab Gulf nation, which wants good and works for it.

I thank the brothers for the behavior and cooperation between us all and hope that we will, God willing, be up to the responsibility regarding the directives that we receive from our leaders—who do not spare any effort in serving their states—and will be up to the good intentions of our dear noble peoples and the peoples of the Arab and Islamic nation. Thank you very much, and greetings to you all.

Staff Lieutenant General Shaykh Khalifah Bin-Ahmad Al Khalifah, his excellency the defense minister and deputy commander general of the Bahraini Defense Forces, delivered the following speech:

Your Royal Highness Prince Sultan Bin-'Abd-al-'Aziz, we are pleased to be here in our second country, the Kingdom of Saudi Arabia, in order to participate with the brothers in the proceedings of these meetings in order to hold discussions and consult each other about everything that may strengthen the process of military cooperation between our states on the basis of the deep-rooted strategic principles of joint defense, whose strong foundations were laid by our leaders. [passage omitted]

I pray to God Almighty that these meetings of good and cooperation would continue between us, and may God make them successful. May God make you successful and may God's peace, mercy and blessings be upon you.

After that, the proceedings of the 13th session of their highnesses and excellencies the GCC defense ministers ended.

Saudi Minister Views Meeting Outcome

LD1311212494 Riyadh Saudi Arabian Television Network in Arabic 1830 GMT 13 Nov 94

[News conference by Prince Sultan Bin-'Abd-al-'Aziz, second deputy prime minister, minister of defense and aviation, and inspector general, with unidentified correspondents in Riyadh on 13 November—recorded; first paragraph is announcer's introduction]

[FBIS Translated Text] After the closure of the Gulf Cooperation Council [GCC] defense ministers' meeting, His Royal Highness Prince Sultan Bin-'Abd-al-'Aziz, second deputy prime minister, minister of defense and aviation, and inspector general, answered correspondents' questions.

[Correspondent] Your Royal Highness, how do you assess the outcome of this meeting?

[Prince Sultan] It was good and important, and benefits our people, thanks be to God.

[Correspondent] Your Royal Highness, regarding the early warning system discussed by the council of the GCC ministers of defense, what are the main aspects of this project?

[Prince Sultan] I believe that it is to the benefit of the project that we are agreed but are not outspoken.

[Correspondent] Your Royal Highness, do you believe that the recent Iraqi recognition of Kuwait's borders and sovereignty is enough and justifies the lifting of the embargo on Iraq?

[Prince Sultan] Our brothers in Kuwait have the first word on this issue and they voiced it, but, God willing, the Arab nation will have its say when [words indistinct].

[Correspondent] You Royal Highness, did you discuss the costs of and expenditures for the recent international military reinforcements in the Gulf?

[Prince Sultan] Everything costs money, and the officials would not spare any money whatsoever in the service of their people.

[Correspondent] There were reports that there were conflicting points of view in the meeting regarding the bolstering and the development of the Al-Jazirah Shield forces.

[Prince Sultan] This never happened.

[Correspondent] Have you dropped the idea of a unified army of the GCC states?

[Prince Sultan] No this is not true, everything is on its course.

[Correspondent] What will happen to the al-Jazirah Shield forces?

[Prince Sultan] They remain as they are; and they will, God willing, be reinforced.

[Correspondent] With the participation of all countries?

[Prince Sultan] Yes and without hesitation.

[Correspondent] Your Royal Highness, is there a unified military system between the GCC members states?

[Prince Sultan] It is already in place through the Arab League for all of the Arab nation.

[Correspondent] Your Royal Highness, if you do not mind, a question out of context: Some U.S. media reported yesterday that you delayed the deal on planes for Saudia [Saudi airlines company]. What are the justifications?

[Prince Sultan] I cannot give my opinion on this issue here as minister of defense; ask me in Saudia headquarters and I will give you the answer there.

[Correspondent] But the British Government has said that it agreed with the Saudi Government on a delivery date of Hawk aircraft? When is that?

This report may contain copyrighted material. Copying and dissemination is prohibited without permission of the copyright owners.

[Prince Sultan] The first deal is on course, and the Yamamah deal is going as it should go.

[Correspondent] On the collective buying of weapons by GCC member states?

[Prince Sultan] Every country is free to buy all that it wants.

[Correspondent] What do say about the Gulf industrialization company?

[Prince Sultan] The plan is at the stage of consultation and exchanged visits regarding the establishment of an industry based on the interests of our countries.

Bahrain

Cabinet Welcomes Iraqi Recognition of Kuwait

JN1311150394 Manama WAKH in Arabic 1420 GMT 13 Nov 94

[FBIS Translated Excerpt] Manama, 13 Nov (WAKH)—The State of Bahrain has welcomed Iraq's recognition of the State of Kuwait's sovereignty and independence. Bahrain thinks the recognition is a positive step in the right direction toward Iraq's implementation of relevant Security Council resolutions. In its regular weekly session, held under His Highness Shaykh Khalifah Bin-Salman Al Khalifah, the prime minister, the Bahraini Council of Ministers said Iraq's recognition will enhance and bolster security and stability in this vital region. [passage omitted]

Kuwait

Iraqi Recognition Described as 'Only Choice'

NC1011170694 Paris AFP in English 1555 GMT 10 Nov 94

[FBIS Transcribed Text] Kuwait City, Nov 10 (AFP)—Iraq had no alternative to recognising Kuwait if it ever wanted to lift the stranglehold of UN economic sanctions, a government official here said Thursday [10 November].

"It is certainly an important step but Iraq's only choice was to recognise Kuwait to end the international embargo and its domestic problems," he told AFP.

"Why was all this blood spilled during the Gulf War and the Iran-Iraq war if Iraq gives way to international pressure every time?" said the official, who refused to be named.

Iraq on Thursday formally recognised Kuwait for the first time on Thursday, one of the key UN conditions for the lifting of sanctions imposed after its August 1990 invasion of the emirate.

Kuwaiti MP Ya'qub Hayati warned that President Saddam Husayn is a "deceiver capable of annulling any document" ratified by his country's ruling bodies.

Hayati said that the "Kuwaiti government would be stupid if it regarded Iraqi recognition as a victory."

"We must never trust Saddam Husayn or the Ba'th party," which is in power in Iraq, he said.

Council of Ministers Assesses Iraqi Decision

LD1211194194 Kuwait Radio Kuwait in Arabic 1700 GMT 12 Nov 94

[FBIS Translated Text] The Council of Ministers met this morning in the Bayan Palace office of his highness the heir apparent and prime minister, Shaykh Sa'd al-'Abdallah al-Salim al-Sabah. The meeting was attended by his excellency the speaker of the National Assembly, Ahmad 'Abd al-'Aziz al-Sa'dun.

Following the meeting, 'Abd al-'Aziz Dakhil al-Dakhil, the secretary of state for cabinet affairs and planning minister, stated that the council reviewed the two 10 November decisions of the Revolutionary Command Council and the National Assembly of the Republic of Iraq, which stated the Republic of Iraq's recognition of the sovereignty of the State of Kuwait, its territorial integrity, its political independence and the international borders between the State of Kuwait and the Republic of Iraq as demarcated by the UN commission on boundary demarcation between the State of Kuwait and Iraq, in accordance with UN Security Council Resolution No. 833, which was adopted in accordance with Chapter seven of the UN Charter.

The Council of Ministers, while recognizing the importance of such a step, one which Iraq should have taken as soon as it unconditionally accepted the UN Security Council Resolution No. 687 of April 1991, reiterates that the recognition decision was a step in the right direction toward Iraq's implementation of all UN Security Council resolutions on its aggression against the State of Kuwait.

Such a decision was made thanks to the insistence of the international community, in the shape of the UN Security Council, on the need for Iraq to implement all the Security Council's resolutions, and on a link between the political and legal clauses in such resolutions.

Iraq's recognition was also an affirmation of a reality: The existence of the State of Kuwait as a historical and political entity which could be affirmed by official, recorded minutes, messages, and international and bilateral agreements, particularly those signed in 1932 and 1963. All those records categorically affirm such an independent historical reality. Also, the three decades of political and diplomatic relations between the two countries at ambassadorial level is also proof of this reality.

In this respect, the Council of Ministers reiterates the need that such a step by Iraq should be followed by other steps in the direction of serious implementation of all Security Council resolutions in order that Iraq affirms its peaceful intentions toward the State of Kuwait and other neighboring countries.

This report may contain copyrighted material. Copying and dissemination is prohibited without permission of the copyright owners.

While Kuwait insists on the need for Iraq to implement the recent UN Security Council Resolution No. 949, which was passed following the recent escalation concocted by Iraq, it urges members of the Security Council to continue their principled and firm stances and their serious endeavors to force Iraq to release all Kuwaiti and foreign prisoners and hostages, and to end their suffering by returning them to their families, and to implement all UN Security Council resolutions in such a way that will bring about peace, security and stability to this vital region of the world.

UN Delegate Welcomes Iraq's 'Major Step'

NC1011190394 London MBC Television in Arabic 1800 GMT 10 Nov 94

[Telephone interview with Muhammad Abu-al-Hasan, delegate to the United Nations, in New York, by Nicole Tannuri, in London, on 10 November—recorded]

[FBIS Translated Text] [Abu-Al-Hasan] We believe that the step taken by the Iraqi regime is a major step in the right direction. Although it is delayed, it addresses an issue that concerns security and stability in the region. We believe that this step must be followed by other steps relating to the remainder of Iraq's obligations toward the pertinent Security Council resolutions, most importantly, the issue of the Kuwaiti prisoners and detainees held in the prisons of the Iraqi regime, which continues to reject any serious, effective, and goodwill cooperation with the Red Cross. Thus we believe that this issue must be given greater attention now.

[Tannuri] Did you explain this concern to the Security Council members? What was their reaction?

[Abu-Al-Hasan] We did indeed explain this concern in detail. We also mentioned it in the recent message we sent to the Security Council president. We found a positive response from the Security Council members. The Security Council's main objective is to achieve security and stability in the region, which can be achieved in several ways, through implementing the Security Council resolutions and by ensuring the availability of peaceful intentions. On Monday the Security Council will examine Kuwait's request not to expose Kuwait and the region again to what they were exposed to in October.

Defense Minister Discusses Arms Deals, Iraq

NC1011161094 Cairo AL-WAFD in Arabic 7 Nov 94 p 7

[Interview with Defense Minister Shaykh Ahmad al-Hamud al-Jabir al-Sabah by Sana' al-Sa'id in Kuwait; date not given]

[FBIS Translated Text] [Al-Sa'id] Much has been said recently about new arms deals that Kuwait is negotiating with the countries of the alliance, deals that are necessitated by recent developments.

[Al-Sabah] True. They include, for instance, the deal concluded before the end of last month with Britain to the tune of 50 million pounds sterling. It was concluded during the official talks held with the British defense secretary during his visit to Kuwait. Under the deal, the Kuwaiti Air Force will be supplied with British Starburst air-defense missiles. It is one of several deals to arm the Kuwait Army according to the standing program and the weapons requested by the Armed Forces personnel.

[Al-Sa'id] What is the truth about there being a helicopter deal with the United States in the making?

[Al-Sabah] The truth is that the Kuwaiti Army requires specific types of weapons for its rebuilding. In accordance with the study endorsed by the Higher Defense Council and the Military Council of the Defense Ministry, the State of Kuwait will purchase the most updated types of weapons required by the Kuwaiti Army for its rebuilding. They include helicopters, ground, and naval weapons.

[Al-Sa'id] When will the deal with the United States be concluded?

[Al-Sabah] I cannot name a specific time or date at the moment, but I can say that arms deals will be concluded with the United States and others. Let me mention here the arms deal concluded with Russia in August, which involved weapons for the ground troops.

[Al-Sa'id] What about the budget earmarked for these new deals?

[Al-Sabah] We have a $11 billion supplementary budget for our Armed Forces. So far, deals worth more than $5 billion have been concluded. If we take into consideration that this budget is distributed over 12 years, as stipulated in the law authorizing this budget that was endorsed by the Cabinet and the parliament, the arms deals I have mentioned earlier will be concluded in the coming years and within the period specified by the law of this budget.

[Al-Sa'id] Some have criticized the number of foreign troops stationed in Kuwait, who arrived in the wake of Iraq's troop buildup last month. They say that the number of troops is greater than required by the mission at hand.

[Al-Sabah] The number is not exaggerated. I could say that the fraternal and friendly troops presently stationed in Kuwait could protect the country. In Kuwait there are now 1,200 British troops, approximately 20,000 U.S. troops, a ground force from our brothers in the United Arab Emirates, a naval force from Bahrain, and a force from Oman. The biggest sister, Saudi Arabia, is placing all the troops it has in the north at our disposal.

[Al-Sa'id] Do they form part of the Peninsula Shield troops?

[Al-Sabah] They come under the Peninsula Shield as well as under bilateral agreements and deals.

This report may contain copyrighted material. Copying and dissemination is prohibited without permission of the copyright owners.

[Al-Sa'id] Some people say that regardless of the Saddam regime, which will remain a temporary regime, the facts of geography, sociology, intermarriage, and proximity emphasize the need to get Iraq into a Gulf security system along with Iran, in accordance with Resolution 598 issued at the end of the Iraq-Iran war.

[Al-Sabah] All I can say in answer to your question is that we side with Iraq as a people and a state, although we differ with the ruling regime in Baghdad. We have never been against the state or the people of Iraq. Thus, we are against partitioning Iraq. The Iraqi people exist and, for our part, we will never think of partitioning Iraq.

[Al-Sa'id] Do you not think that the establishment of a ground exclusion zone in south Iraq, similar to the air exclusion zone established following the issue of Resolution 949, will precipitate the partitioning of Iraq and its division into a Shiite state in the south, Sunni in the center, and Kurdish in the north?

[Al-Sabah] I do not see this. The ground exclusion zone is meant to reassure the Kuwait people and the people of the Gulf states in general. It will ensure that Iraq will not move its troops against us. Thus it has nothing to do either directly or indirectly with Iraq's partition or division. As I have stated, we are against partitioning Iraq.

[Al-Sa'id] You spoke to me in an interview a few months ago about a missile deal that Egypt could build in conjunction with another country. Do developments still warrant this deal or has it been reconsidered in view of a change in priorities?

[Al-Sabah] As far as we are concerned, the deal was part of our plan to rebuild the Kuwaiti Army. At the time we thought of using this missile system. Now, and in light of the progress made on the world's missile systems, we have developed a different vision regarding the missile systems that Kuwait will be ready to buy and that will be more efficient than the one we studied in the past.

[Al-Sa'id] When will the deal be struck then?

[Al-Sabah] It is still being evaluated but will go into effect soon, God willing.

[Al-Sa'id] How much of the gross national product is earmarked for the defense budget in light of recent events?

[Al-Sabah] It is a small percentage, compared with other states that are rebuilding their armed forces.

[Al-Sa'id] The Gulf states have rushed to lift the secondary and tertiary Arab boycott of Israel. Could cooperation in the field of purchasing weapons from Israel follow?

[Al-Sabah] First, there has been no rush by the Gulf states to lift this boycott. Rather, there was some urging by a friendly state to lift the boycott partially. In reality we could say that some Arab states have imported many things that were made in Israel. But, as member states of the Gulf Cooperation Council [GCC], we always abide by our Arab decisions, including the primary boycott. The boycott has been lifted in part. It could be lifted in full but this requires a decision by the Arab League. The second thing is that we cannot buy goods from Israel as long as the primary boycott remains in force; it remains in force. Lifting it requires a comprehensive peace in the region. As GCC member states, we always seek peace among the region's peoples and say: Enough war.

Collective Gulf Stance on Iraqi Decision Sought

NC1111151894 Cairo MENA in Arabic 1457 GMT 11 Nov 94

[FBIS Translated Text] Kuwait, 11 Nov (MENA)—A responsible Kuwaiti source has stated that consultations are under way among Kuwaiti Government officials and officials from the member states of the Gulf Cooperation Council [GCC] to reach a unified Gulf position regarding the recent Iraqi decision to recognize Kuwait's sovereignty and international border.

In a statement to a MENA correspondent in Kuwait, the source noted that, for now, the Kuwaiti officials prefer to come up with a collective stance by the GCC member states that will serve as a unified reply to Iraq's decision, based on these states sharing the same fate and goals.

The source noted that Kuwaiti delegations will visit several sisterly and friendly states next week to explain Kuwait's views in this regard.

Kuwait Urges OPEC To Discuss Iraq's Return

LD1411143594 Kuwait KUNA in Arabic 1235 GMT 14 Nov 94

[FBIS Translated Excerpt] Kuwait, 14 Nov—Kuwaiti Oil Minister Dr. 'Abd-al-Muhsin al-Mid'aj said that OPEC has two options to meet Iraq's return to the oil markets. The first would be to increase the production ceiling and give this increase to Iraq; the second could be that some member states give up part of their quotas in favor of Iraq.

Dr. al-Mid'aj in a statement to newsmen called on the OPEC member states to study available options so that they can agree on the best way to safeguard the stability of prices. He urged OPEC to start now and sort out the quota question among themselves and be ready when the UN decides to lift the economic sanctions on Iraq and the latter is allowed to resume oil exports. He stressed the need to be prepared in good time for all possibilities and be ready before the lifting of the embargo on Iraq. [passage omitted]

Saudi Arabia

Government Said To Back Kuwaiti Stance on Iraq

LD1211202194 Riyadh Saudi Arabian Television Network in Arabic 1830 GMT 12 Nov 94

[FBIS Translated Text] Following the release of a statement by the Kuwaiti Council of Ministers, which was

This report may contain copyrighted material. Copying and dissemination is prohibited without permission of the copyright owners.

published today, an authoritative source told SPA that the government of the custodian of the two holy mosques, King Fahd Bin-'Abd-al-'Aziz Al Sa'ud, after taking cognizance of this statement of the Council of Ministers of the fraternal State of Kuwait, supports the full content of the statement.

French Interior Minister Discusses Meetings

LD1311235394 Riyadh SPA in Arabic 2155 GMT 13 Nov 94

[FBIS Translated Excerpt] Riyadh, 13 Nov—His Highness Charles Pasqua, minister of state, interior, and territorial management in the Republic of France, expressed his pride and happiness at meeting King Fahd Bin-'Abd-al-'Aziz Al Sa'ud, custodian of the two holy mosques; His Royal Highness Crown Prince 'Abdallah Bin-'Abd-al-'Aziz, deputy prime minister and chairman of the National Guard; and His Royal Highness Prince Sultan Bin-'Abd-al-'Aziz, second deputy prime minister, defense and aviation minister, and inspector general.

His Excellency Mr. Pasqua said in a speech at the beginning of the news conference he held this evening in Riyadh that he had the opportunity to meet His Royal Highness Prince Salman Bin-'Abd-al-'Aziz, governor of Riyadh region, and expressed his happiness for the meeting.

He pointed out that he and the delegation accompanying him held talks with His Royal Highness Prince Nayif Bin-'Abd-al-'Aziz, interior minister, on common issues which were of interest to the interior ministries in Saudi Arabia and France. [passage omitted]

Mr. Pasqua pointed out that a decision was made to study cooperation in the security of the Kingdom of Saudi Arabia's border, whereby the concerned experts from the Saudi side would be specified so as to be capable of recognizing the means which France could provide.

The French interior minister said that during his meeting with the King Fahd, custodian of the two holy mosques, and Interior Minister Prince Nayif Bin-'Abd-al-'Aziz, he felt the Saudi officials' desire to see peace established in this area of the world. He said: I stressed the French Government's will, as defined by French Prime Minister Edouard Balladur and the president of the French Republic, to help bolster stability in the this region, of which Saudi Arabia is an important element.

He added: I also informed King Fahd Bin-'Abd-al-'Aziz, and the rest of those I spoke to and who listened attentively to my analysis, about the conditions of Muslims in France and the French Government's will that the Muslim community in France will organize itself and practice its religion freely in France within the framework of abiding by its laws.

[passage omitted]

He went on to say: Friendship ties existing between the Kingdom of Saudi Arabia and France would be bolstered by this visit, from which the two sides are expecting good results. I believe that all of the members of the French delegation would like to join me in thanking the Saudi authorities.

[passage omitted

The French interior minister then answered journalists' questions. Asked about his impressions of what he had seen during his visit to the Kingdom of Saudi Arabia, he indicated that he found the Kingdom growing steadily and that the infrastructure was making astonishing progress. He added: This gives me the impression that this country has great dynamism and energy. The installations I visited also confirmed to me that the Kingdom of Saudi Arabia benefitted from and used technological progress while preserving its traditions.

Asked about projects for security cooperation between France and other Gulf countries, Pasqua said: France has cooperation agreements with the rest of the Gulf countries. As far as I am concerned, I do not have any current [as received] agreements apart from those we started with the Kingdom of Saudi Arabia in 1980. Therefore, I have no intention of making other visits in the region.

He added: As you know, we are busy in France now. Presidential elections will be held very soon, and it is better for the interior minister to be in Paris.

Asked about the French stance on the development of the peace process in the Middle East, the French interior minister said: "France supports peace and everything that can lead to restoring peace to the region. Without underestimating the current difficulties, we still have a long way to go. We have to be patient, and wise men should quickly start proceeding along the way to peace."

Asked if the memorandum of understanding signed with Prince Nayif Bin-'Abd-al-'Aziz includes contracts and deals to supply the Saudi security forces with more weapons and expertise, and if the value of these contracts could be around 12 billion francs, the minister said: "No. Things are not done this way. We have signed an understanding memorandum with Prince Nayif which lays the basis for our cooperation in the field of border monitoring and security."

He added: "As I said before, the Saudi side should inform us about their limited [mahdudah] needs in this field. I am the interior minister and not a trade minister. This agreement will have a follow up to complete it. The technical experts should consider how to materialize this cooperation in the future. We have not gone any further than that. It is better if you do not mention figures that do not exist."

Asked about the French political positions, with the implication that they were not solid, particularly vis-a-vis Iraq and Bosnia, and whether this reflects the

This report may contain copyrighted material. Copying and dissemination is prohibited without permission of the copyright owners.

political fluctuations in the French Government which might affect the progress of the coming elections, the minister said: "I do not think that French foreign policy will affect the results of the coming elections. Contrary to what was sometimes said, French foreign policy is solid, but some other countries are not solid in their policies. We obtained from the European countries and the United Nations the right to intervene in the Bosnian conflict. We did not deviate from the principle of respecting what is right."

He went on to say that "concerning Iraq, our position was very clear. We are with the full and strict implementation of the principles of the UN resolutions. We understand the caution expressed by the leaders of the Gulf states toward the rulers in Iraq, because they were the victims of policies followed in the region, and that France's foreign policy is determined inside the government in agreement between the president of the republic and the prime minister."

He added: "Thus, there was no wavering and no individual initiatives. It is true that that would excite the French press, and occasionally the international press, but there was only one policy."

Concerning his excellency's personal stance toward the situation in Algeria and the rumors that maintain that the French Interior Ministry was in possession of conclusive evidence that the wave of violence has moved from France to European countries, his excellency the French interior minister said: "Concerning the first question about the situation in Algeria, I do not have a personal view, but I have an opinion that has been formed from the information in my possession. Regrettably, I think we expect the confrontations to last for a long period because those whom we call extremists are continuing their armed operations, and the Army continues to pursue them, but life continues in Algeria. The people go to their work, the enterprises are also operating, the teachers continue their work, and the students go to their schools despite the threats. We should appreciate that because it is considered bravery, and we hope that a political solution would be reached, which would lead to establishment of a regime with a wide support base."

He added: "At present, France is offering its economic support to Algeria, because if the economic situation deteriorated, it would complicate the situation even further.

"Concerning the other question, what we knew in the past, and what has been confirmed now, is that some organizations that practiced terrorism in Algeria and Tunisia have used France as a rear base for organizing their operations. It is certain that these organizations included people from different nationalities. It has also become clear to us that the branches of these organizations existed in other European and Maghreban countries."

The French interior minister added: "I have reaffirmed the position of the French Government but I would like to stress that we do not want to be careless about the issue of terrorism. We need to be cautious. When I used to talk and say that two years ago, people were looking at me as if I was imagining things to be worse than they really were."

He said further: "In fact, the terrorist movement exists in the world and it appears in various forms, such as drug-smuggling and organized crime, which is one of the faces of terrorism. We also notice that within the terrorist networks that use religion as a cover there are also a number of delinquents."

In reply to a question on how he saw cooperation between the two countries in the fight against drugs, he said: "We spoke with Prince Nayif and with the other officials in the Interior Ministry about our ideas on cooperation in this field. At the moment, the Kingdom of Saudi Arabia is not directly affected by this scourge, and I hope it stays that way."

He added: "I told Prince Nayif that the United Nations was holding an international conference on organized crime in Naples on 22 November. Naturally this conference will touch on the subject of drugs. We agreed with His Royal Highness Prince Nayif to exchange expertise and to share a permanent data base for the exchange of information." [passage omitted]

In response to a question whether he would run for the presidency in France, the French interior minister said: In fact the problem in France is not the lack of candidates but their huge number.

Ends Visit

LD1311230694 Riyadh SPA in Arabic 2245 GMT 13 Nov 94

[FBIS Translated Excerpt] Riyadh, 13 Nov—Charles Pasqua, French minister of interior and territorial management, left Riyadh tonight at the end of a three-day official visit to the Kingdom of Saudi Arabia at the invitation of Saudi Interior Minister Prince Nayif Bin-'Abd-al-'Aziz. [passage omitted]

Paper Views Recent U.S. Election Results

MM1411144294 London AL-SHARQ AL-AWSAT in Arabic 11 Nov 94 p9

[Article by 'Uthman Mirghani: "U.S. Election Results, a Problem for Both Parties"]

[FBIS Translated Text] The defeat of the Democrats does not necessarily dash their hopes for the 1996 elections, just as the victory of the Republicans does not guarantee victory in the future battle.

All U.S. Democratic Party figures, especially President Bill Clinton, agree that the results of the congressional elections and the governors elections constituted a severe

This report may contain copyrighted material. Copying and dissemination is prohibited without permission of the copyright owners.

defeat for their party, necessitating a reexamination of some of its policies and programs. All political circles agree that the Democrats will go through some difficult times in the period between the announcement of the mid-term election results and the 1996 presidential and congressional elections (the entire House of Representatives and one third of the Senate).

The current expectations are that, because of their defeat, the Democrats will have divisions and internal problems as they look for a scapegoat to be held responsible. This is a distinct possibility in a world of politics based on interests, particularly as some Democrats have vehemently attacked their party and their President because of the election results.

However, not only the Democrats will have problems. The victorious Republicans will not be without problems resulting from their triumph and the way it was achieved. That is because the Republican Party's victory brought the conservative right and the Christian fundamentalist alliance to the fore, pushing the party toward a new line which could result in a conflict between the party's conservatives and moderates over identity and over policy in the coming two years, and then election of a candidate for the next presidential elections.

Furthermore, the electorate will expect the Republicans, who control both houses of Congress and have a majority of governors, to achieve some tangible results in the next two years. If the Republicans fail to do that and if they engage in continual disputes with Clinton with the aim of weakening him and blocking his programs, the result will be that both sides will appear weak in the eyes of the American electorate who have demonstrated that they still want change and who want Washington's political picture to change and who want a lesser government structure and role.

Much will depend on the ability and skill of the Republicans and Clinton in playing their cards in the coming period, which is open to all possibilities. Last Tuesday's election results do not mean the end of the Democrats' hopes and will not guarantee a Republican victory in 1966. Two years in politics is a very long time. The results of the next battle will be much more important than this recent one.

United Arab Emirates

Paper Views Iraqi Recognition of Kuwait

JN1311165794 Dubayy AL-BAYAN in Arabic 11 Nov 94 p 1

[Editorial: "On Iraq's Recognition of Kuwait"]

[FBIS Translated Text] Perhaps the most important thing about Iraq's recognition of Kuwait and its international borders is that it is the first time that Iraq's legislative authority has officially recognized the sovereignty and independence of sisterly Kuwait since its independence in 1961.

This means the Iraqi recognition is more than 30 years late. The recognition came 40 months after the issuance of Security Council Resolution 687 which requires, among other things, that Iraq recognize Kuwait and respect its territorial integrity as part of the settlement imposed to end Operation Desert Storm.

Had this recognition come earlier, it would have spared the Iraqi people much suffering as a result of the continued attempts of its ruling regime to circumvent Security Council resolutions.

These attempts—which have continued and taken different forms since the expulsion of the Iraqi invading forces from Kuwait—explain the skepticism and lack of enthusiasm by which by many Arab capitals have received the Iraqi decision, in spite of its importance and clarity. This is a natural reaction in view of the distrust of the existing regime.

This said, however, we must note that the Iraqi decision would remove a major obstacles in the Middle East that had prevented stability in this part of the world.

The Iraqi decision would also help promote Arab and international efforts in order to alleviate the impact of the international sanctions imposed on Iraq and end the Iraqi people's suffering as a result of the sanctions.

It is very important, however, that Iraq's recognition of Kuwait should be a prelude to a real change in Iraq's policy that would allow the fraternal Iraqi people to restore their role in the Arab arena, away from miscalculated adventures and illegitimate aspirations.

U.S. Elections, Unified Arab Position Viewed

JN1311164894 Dubayy AL-BAYAN in Arabic 10 Nov 94 p 1

[Editorial: "In the Aftermath of the U.S. Elections"]

[FBIS Translated Text] The victory scored by the Republicans yesterday in the U.S. elections was not surprising. Most observers expected that result in light of President Clinton's declining popularity confirmed by all opinion polls conducted on the eve of the elections.

The surprise, however, came in the size of the defeat of the ruling Democratic Party—a defeat which shifted the Congressional majority to the Republican Party.

While the result is seen as a referendum on the president and a sign that Clinton will join the list of one-term presidents, it represents a terrible nightmare for the current administration during the rest of Clinton's presidential term. The wide authorities of the U.S. president

This report may contain copyrighted material. Copying and dissemination is prohibited without permission of the copyright owners.

have now become hostage to the will of the opposition, which can stop or suspend any presidential decision.

This will not only affect the Americans, but also the entire world, because the United States is the only leader of the world and because it has a decisive influence on international politics directly or through the United Nations.

It will also affect the peace and normalization process in the Middle East. To what extent, however, will depend on the Arab countries' ability to adopt a unified Arab position to protect the minimum Arab interests, which are jointly shared by Arab countries despite fragmentation attempts.

A unified Arab will is the only way to guarantee the Arab countries' ability to determine their own fate regardless of fluctuations outside their region, regardless of how U.S. or other administrations handle their missions, and regardless of whether these missions are paralyzed or gain the speed of a missile.

Yemen

Government Welcomes Iraqi Recognition of Kuwait

JN1211075094 Sanaa Yemeni Republic Radio Network in Arabic 0430 GMT 12 Nov 94

[FBIS Translated Text] Brother Dr. 'Abd-al-Karim al-Iryani, deputy prime minister and foreign minister, has expressed our country's welcome of the Iraqi Government's decision to recognize the sovereignty and independence of the sisterly State of Kuwait and its international borders, demarcated in line with UN Security Council Resolution 833. Al-Iryani said the Yemeni Government welcomes this decision that will enhance peace, security, and stability in the region. It also thinks this decision requires that everybody work to end the tragic situation being experienced by the fraternal Iraqi people as a result of the blanket embargo imposed on them. The Yemeni Government hopes that regional and international efforts will be made toward this end.

This report may contain copyrighted material. Copying and dissemination is prohibited without permission of the copyright owners.

Russian Foreign Minister Andrey Kozyrev Visits

Meets With Saddam Husayn

JN1011163294 Baghdad INA in Arabic 1606 GMT 10 Nov 94

[FBIS Translated Text] Baghdad, 10 Nov (INA)—President Saddam Husayn has received Andrey Kozyrev, foreign minister of the Russian Federation. During the meeting, Kozyrev delivered a reply from Russian President Boris Yeltsin to the message sent to him by President Saddam Husayn. The meeting also addressed relations between the two friendly countries and the situation in the region, especially the question of recognizing Kuwait.

President Saddam Husayn expressed the appreciation of the Iraqi people and leadership for the Russian initiative and Russia's eagerness to find peaceful, sound, and balanced solutions to problems in the region. President Saddam Husayn also expressed appreciation for Russia's efforts toward lifting the unjust blockade imposed on Iraq.

Kozyrev expressed the Russian leadership's appreciation for President Saddam Husayn's wisdom and Iraq's constructive attitude toward finding peaceful solutions to existing problems on the basis of international law.

The meeting was attended by Deputy Prime Minister Tariq 'Aziz; Foreign Minister Muhammad Sa'id al-Sahhaf; Viktor Posuvalyuk, director of the Russian Foreign Ministry's Middle East and North Africa Department; the ambassador of the Russian Federation in Baghdad; and the ambassador of the Republic of Iraq in Moscow.

Departs Baghdad

JN1011172594 Baghdad INA in Arabic 1700 GMT 10 Nov 94

[FBIS Translated Text] Baghdad, 10 Nov (INA)—Russian Foreign Minister Andrey Kozyrev and the delegation accompanying him left Baghdad today after a one-day visit.

He was seen off by Foreign Minister Muhammad Sa'id al-Sahhaf, several Foreign Ministry officials, and the Russian ambassador in Baghdad.

Kozyrev and his delegation left aboard a plane of the Russian Airlines, Aeroflot, which brought him directly from Moscow to Baghdad last night.

Two Bomb Explosions Reported in Baghdad Areas

JN1211183594 Baghdad INA in Arabic 1824 GMT 12 Nov 94

[FBIS Translated Text] Baghdad, 12 Nov (INA)—[Words indistinct] three students when an explosive device went off in the Ur neighborhood of Baghdad at noon today.

Another explosion [word indistinct] Baghdad Hotel in Abu-Nuwas Street in the center of the capital today resulting in the death of one person, who was thought to have been carrying the explosives.

One Death Reported

JN1211192394 Baghdad Republic of Iraq Radio Network in Arabic 1900 GMT 12 Nov 94

[FBIS Translated Text] An explosive charge went off in Abu-Nuwas Street near the Baghdad Hotel at 1300 [1000 GMT] today. According to a source at al-Sa'dun police station, the incident resulted in the killing of one person, who could not be identified because his body parts were scattered by the explosion. He is believed to be the person who had planted the explosive charge estimated at approximately 2-3 kg.

Iranian 'Antirevolutionary' Leaders Said To Be Wounded

LD1311212294 Tehran IRNA in English 2015 GMT 13 Nov 94

[FBIS Transcribed Text] Tehran, Nov. 13, IRNA—Iraqi radio on Friday [11 November] reported that at least several leaders of the anti-revolutionaries had been injured in the wake of the Islamic Republic of Iran's Air Force's bombing of anti-revolutionary elements headquarters inside Iraqi territory on Wednesday.

The radio, in a programme put at the disposal of anti-revolutionary elements, reported that the main objective of the Iranian Air Force was bombing one of the most sensitive and important bases of the anti-revolutionaries.

The radio had earlier spoken of the killing of a woman and injuring of several anti-revolutionary elements without mentioning their status, while on Friday candidly confirmed that the injured were leaders of anti-revolutionaries.

Following Iranian aircrafts' attack, Iraqi dissidents said that they witnessed consecutive explosions and dense smoke coming out of anti-revolutionaries' headquarters for several hours.

A security official said on Saturday that the Iranian aircrafts' operations against terrorists were preventive measures to guarantee security in western Iranian border regions.

Outlining conditions under which Iran was forced to adopt the preventive measures, the official said that information gained from terrorist forces' headquarters in Iraq revealed that they were busy engineering plans to launch a number of sabotage operations against urban installations, economic and development resource centers and border dwellers.

Due to the same reason, the official added, Iranian aircrafts chose terrorists' joint command center and the operations were successful.

This report may contain copyrighted material. Copying and dissemination is prohibited without permission of the copyright owners.

Iran's Foreign Ministry last week summoned Iraqi charge d'affaires in Tehran and called on him to inform his respective government that Iran would not tolerate continued presence of anti-revolutionaries in Iraqi territory and that Iran's retaliatory measures against Iraqi-based anti- evolutionaries were not directed against Iraq.

MKO Denies Iranian Claims of Cross-Border Attacks

NC1111113694 Cairo MENA in Arabic 1035 GMT 11 Nov 94

[FBIS Translated Text] Baghdad, 11 Nov (MENA)—The Iranian opposition Mojahedin-e Khalq Organization [MKO] has denied Iranian claims made yesterday that resistance elements launched attacks across the border and clashed with Iranian forces.

In a statement distributed in Baghdad this morning, the organization described the Iranian allegations as total fabrication.

It said the Iranian authorities want to mislead the public, both in Iran and abroad, to cover for the crime of the missile attack Iran launched against a camp of the Iranian resistance in Iraq at dawn Sunday.

The organization called on the United Nations to send a fact-finding mission to the region to see the aftermath of the crime perpetrated by the Iranian authorities and to learn the truth concerning Iranian allegations that infiltrations and attacks are being launched by resistance forces across the border.

'Aziz Views Forthcoming UN Review of Embargo

JN1311125294 Baghdad INA in English 1230 GMT 13 Nov 94

[FBIS Transcribed Text] Amman, Nov. 13, INA—Iraq's Deputy Premier Tariq 'Aziz today left Amman heading for New York to take part in the Security Council routine review of the economic sanctions imposed on Iraq, scheduled tomorrow.

If the United States and Britain had not taken adverse position, the Security Council would have adopted previously a resolution for implementing Paragraph 22 of the Resolution 687 within limited period, but the position of the United States and Britain during this year was the basic obstacle impeding this move, Mr 'Aziz replied a question by the INA correspondent in Amman on his expectations of what to be issued by the Security Council tomorrow.

Mr 'Aziz added that the great decision adopted by Iraq last Thursday on the official announcement of the recognition of Kuwait pursuant to the Security Council Resolution 833 would place the United States and Britain in the bottleneck, and majority members of the Security Council as well as the world states would demand the lifting of the unjust blockade at the earliest possible time, this what I have expected in tomorrow session of the Security Council.

Of course, this positive atmosphere will have effects during the next period on the official position of the Security Council and the United States and Britain should choose either to insist on their intransigent and bizarre position or to be in line with position of the majority of the Security Council members and the world community, Mr 'Aziz said.

Answering a comment of the INA correspondent that it seems that the lifting of the blockade would not be settled now, Mr 'Aziz said it would not be settled during the tomorrow session, but discussing it and demanding the lifting of the blockade have won new impetus and a weight inside the Security Council and in the international community, however, this significant development would have positive effects on nearing the date of the lifting of the blockade.

Foreign Reaction to Kuwait Recognition Reviewed

JN1111081894 Baghdad Republic of Iraq Radio Network in Arabic 0400 GMT 11 Nov 94

[FBIS Translated Text] The U.S. White House's reaction to the decision by the [Iraqi] Revolution Command Council [RCC], and to the National Assembly's recognition of Kuwaiti sovereignty and borders, was that Washington considers this decision as positive if it is implemented, according to the spokesman for the U.S. White House.

The spokesman added: Iraq should comply with other UN resolutions, such as releasing what she termed as the Kuwaiti prisoners and returning Kuwaiti property which has not yet been returned, according to her.

At UN headquarters, U.S. Ambassador Madeleine Albright's secretary said: The recognition decisions are an important achievement for the Security Council, but they are insufficient to lift the embargo because Iraq should comply with all resolutions.

In London, the British Government considered Iraq's recognition of Kuwait as a step forward. However, the Iraqi decision responds to only one condition set by the Security Council, according to an official spokesman for the British Foreign Office. The British spokesman added that Britain will hold talks with its Security Council partners in order to find an appropriate way to reply to the recent Iraqi position.

In Paris, French Foreign Minister Alain Juppe yesterday evening said the United Nations should take this new development into consideration. For its part, France supports fixing the period on testing the monitoring system to no longer than six months, he added.

France's UN Ambassador Jean-Bernard Merimee said: If these decisions were made according to the constitution, they would be considered a very positive development. He added: We will discuss the situation at the

This report may contain copyrighted material. Copying and dissemination is prohibited without permission of the copyright owners.

Security Council next week, and if this recognition is true, the Security Council should at least acknowledge it.

Britain's UN ambassador was more conservative. He said he first wants to scrutinize the recognition documents, and if they are true, there is still another list of demands which Iraq should implement. Despite the fact that recognizing the Kuwaiti borders was an important step as part of Iraq's compliance with the Security Council resolutions, it is still not the only step wanted, he added.

The British ambassador declined to answer a question about the issues he will discuss at the Security Council on Monday. He said the British Government's viewpoint is not to fix the period of testing the efficiency of the future monitoring system. He added: We will be satisfied when Ekeus is convinced that Iraq has completely complied. The British ambassador continued: Certainly, recognizing the borders is very important. This recognition contributes to restoring the credibility, according to him.

In Cairo, Egyptian Foreign Minister 'Amr Musa said: We welcome this decision, and consider it as an important positive step that will remove the root of the problem. This decision will also resolve all other problems.

Arab League Secretary General Dr. 'Ismat 'Abd-al-Majid said he hopes this step will return things to normal. He explained that this step will enable him personally to embark on his own initiative to clear the Arab atmosphere. He, however, reiterated the U.S. position that Iraq should acknowledge all Security Council resolutions, as he put it.

In an AFP report from New York, a number of states will make a joint move at the Security Council next week. These states are Russia, France, China, and Spain. They will try to have the Security Council issue a statement welcoming Iraq's official recognition of Resolution 833 on the border demarcation with Kuwait.

The British BBC television network has said the Iraqi decision to recognize Kuwait as well as the possibility of lifting the UN embargo on the Iraqi oil exports have had a great impact on the oil markets. It indicated that the possibility of adding millions of oil barrels, which can flood the world oil markets, has reduced the prices of Brent crude oil to $19.7 per barrel.

Article: Iraq, Kuwait Part of 'Unified Territory'

JN1111104894 Baghdad BABIL in Arabic 5 Nov 94 p 2

[Unattributed article: "Existence and Borders"; taken from issue No. 572 of the magazine SURAQYA]

[FBIS Translated Text] Even if the imposition of the new "borders" which [Kuwaiti rulers] Jabir al-Ahmad and Sa'd al-'Abdallah are trying to obtain from Iraq under the protection of the United States takes place, they will never be able, even if they are joined by Clinton, to establish a "state" in Kuwait, regardless of the fierceness of usurpation, the ability to dismember, and the indulgence in pressure and arrogance.

Military assistance and billions of dollars do not establish a "nation" or a "homeland" as long as the sands of Iraq and Kuwait belong to a unified, single territory, and as long as the feet of the Iraqis and Kuwaitis step on both sides of the artificial "border."

The entire Kuwaiti border has since the twenties been known to me and to all patriots as artificial. This is also known to the Kuwaiti opposition leaders who are manipulated these days. This is known to its [Kuwaiti] merchants, businessmen, lawyers, engineers, doctors, and journalists. They have this fact in the back of their minds when they talk about the struggle between them and the House of al-Sabah. They do not want to list it within the pan-Arab issues. They uphold it as a struggle over power. This [border] would go if Muhammad al-Saqr, Ahmad al-Sa'dun, Ahmad al-Khatib, Jasim al-Qatami, and many others considered the "territory" which the House of al-Sabah wrenched with British support as a new form of colonialism that cannot be removed except by the removal of borders and barriers between the big north and the small south, and the return of the misguided son to his compassionate father.

Jabir, Sa'd, and Sabah are trying to seek the assistance of the predator nations to solve their problem, but the border demarcation will not bring to the heroic knights of Kuwait security or comfort. Solutions that lead to the robbing of oil and the stealing of maritime outlets and to pushing back the border by 600 meters will not solve the problem. The House of al-Sabah does not want Iraq to return to its tranquility. They continue to reject settlement, until Iraqi women and children are starved to death. This is because they believe their days will be everlasting as long as Marines remain in their homes. It is an abhorrent American heritage to divide this homeland into homelands and the single nation into many nations and peoples. However, what is more abhorrent is to find among the Arabs someone who considers that Iraq will never, one day, rise and march again toward the south.

Opposition Claims 3 Officers, 3 Physicians Executed

LD1011133894 Tehran IRNA in English 1255 GMT 10 Nov 94

[FBIS Transcribed Text] Abadan, Khuzestan Prov., Nov. 10, IRNA—An Iraqi radio belonging to opposition groups said on Thursday [10 November] that three senior Iraqi Army officers and three physicians were executed by firing squads last week.

The Voice of Revolutionary Iraq in a news broadcast said that Air Force Brigadier General Hamid Majed al-Jenabi, commander of an air base in Kirkuk and Retired Colonel Odai Shamoun are among the group executed on charges of attempts to overthrow the Baghdad regime.

This report may contain copyrighted material. Copying and dissemination is prohibited without permission of the copyright owners.

The radio said the three physicians executed were among the staff of Noaman and Yarmouk hospitals in Baghdad.

The bodies of the victims, who had been arrested in Baghdad airport and taken to an unknown destination, were delivered to their families one week after their execution, it said.

According to the radio, monitored here, the physicians had been sentenced to death for refusing to carry out Saddam Husayn's order for cutting body organs of soldiers deserting the army.

Paper: End of Bosnia Embargo Meant To Embarrass Russia

JN1311095194 Baghdad INA in Arabic 0840 GMT 13 Nov 94

[FBIS Translated Text] Baghdad, 13 Nov (INA)—BABIL says the U.S. Administration's decision to lift the arms embargo imposed on the Bosnian Army is an attempt to shuffle the deck in the wake of the Russian foreign minister's visit to Baghdad and days before the UN Security Council starts a discussion of the embargo imposed on Iraq.

In an editorial today, the paper says Washington's decision to unilaterally lift the embargo imposed on the Bosnian Army—only two days after Kozyrev's visit to Baghdad and days before the Council meeting—can only be described as an attempt to embarrass the Russians before the Bosnian Serbs.

The paper says the U.S. decision also constitutes a challenge to France and Britain over the issue of the arms embargo imposed on Bosnia-Herzegovina. It is unilateral action taken outside the framework of UN Security Council resolutions on the situation in former Yugoslavia.

BABIL says it is convinced that Washington seeks to activate the sale of U.S. weapons and prolong the war in the former Yugoslavia.

The paper warns against the possibility that the armed conflict there may spread outside the area of the current fighting and threaten the security of the entire Balkan region.

The paper stresses that the White House administration is also trying to compensate Clinton for the defeat of his Democratic Party and his entire foreign policy by the U.S. voter.

Kurdish Radio Questions Recognition of Kuwait

NC1111183594 (Clandestine) Voice of the People of Kurdistan in Arabic 1615 GMT 11 Nov 94

[Station commentary]

[FBIS Translated Text] Four years after the Iraqi forces' occupation of Kuwait and, as dictator Saddam Husayn used to say, returning the branch, Kuwait, to the root; after the Iraqi forces were driven out of Kuwait by Desert Storm; and after this adventure caused the political, economic, and social destruction of Iraq and its future—after all this, dictator Saddam Husayn said: We are sorry, we made a mistake. Kuwait is an independent and sovereign state with recognized borders; it is not a branch as we used to say. Thus, so simply and shamelessly, the Iraqi regime wants to forget the disasters and catastrophes that have befallen Iraq, Kuwait, the region, and the world as a result of the 2 August 1990 crime.

The Iraqi regime and dictator Saddam Husayn have a notorious record of betraying vows and documents. It would be no wonder if the world was to hear—in time—that the Iraqi regime would withdraw its recognition of Kuwait and create another problem in Iraq and the region. There are numerous examples in this regime's file to prove this point: After the Kurdish Liberation Movement's pressure on and struggle against the Iraqi regime, the regime agreed to negotiate with the Kurdish Movement. It released a statement known as the 11 March statement of 1970. Four years later, when the regime felt it was strong on the domestic and external levels, it disavowed its promises and again war broke out, in 1974, between the Kurdish movement and the Iraqi regime.

In March 1975, and in an attempt to strike at the Kurdish Movement in Iraq, the Iraqi regime signed the Algiers Agreement with the shah of Iran, after ceding part of its territory and water to Iran. In 1980, the head of the Iraqi regime tore this agreement up and sparked off a war with Iran that lasted eight years.

In 1990, after the Iraqi regime occupied Kuwait, this regime again unconditionally recognized the March Agreement of 1975. On 2 August 1990 the Iraqi regime occupied Kuwait and said at the time that Kuwait was not a state but the 19th governorate of Iraq. In March 1991 the Iraqi regime recognized the State of Kuwait after its forces were driven by force out of Kuwait and after it, defeated and under force, agreed to Security Council Resolution 687. Then the Iraqi regime began to stall regarding implementation of the clause on official recognition of Kuwait's sovereignty and border in accordance with Resolution 687, especially after the endorsement of Resolution 844, which demarcated the new formal border of the State of Kuwait. During that time the regime's press again began to call Kuwait the 19th governorate of Iraq. Now the Iraqi regime has recognized the border and sovereignty of the State of Kuwait. It would not be surprising if this regime one day withdrew this recognition of the State of Kuwait, because it is used to such behavior and its life as a dictatorial regime is linked with prevarication and deception.

Kurd Spokesmen Urge Initiatives To 'Finish' Saddam

MS1111101894 London THE GUARDIAN in English 11 Nov 94 p 16

[Report by David Hirst: "Saddam's Foes Left High And Dry As West Fears Revolt"]

This report may contain copyrighted material. Copying and dissemination is prohibited without permission of the copyright owners.

[FBIS Transcribed Text] Hoshiar Zibari [as published], the Iraqi Kurdish spokesman, said: "Surely it's time the world takes a clear decision—get rid of Saddam once and for all."

That, for the Iraqi opposition, should have been the lesson of the Iraqi president's recent threat to reinvade Kuwait, attempting to escape from the worsening predicament he brought on himself by the 1990 invasion.

They fear that his parliament's solemn recognition yesterday of the long-coveted neighbour—a reversion to appeasement where menace failed—will deflect the world from that goal.

Yet even if President Saddam's latest volte-face does not lead to a lifting of sanctions, these and other United Nations constraints are no longer enough. More is required than simply containment, keeping him "in his box".

"Certainly the sanctions are biting to the core," Mr Zibari said, "but you have to take some new initiative to finish him off. The Americans still seem afraid of that."

It was the same fear, the opposition believes, that made President George Bush halt his troops' advance deep inside Iraq in March 1991, just as they were about to engage the elite Republican Guards.

Ahmad Shallabi [as published], head of the Iraqi National Congress (INC), the Kurdish-based opposition movement, said: "Desert Storm was perfectly planned. But there was no planning for the political aftermath."

It seems little has changed. The United States and their Arab allies are still paralysed, unable to complete the logic of what they began. That might require a US military campaign to topple the despot or avert a post-Saddam order worse than President Saddam himself.

Meanwhile, the Iraqi people suffer the worsening effects of sanctions—pauperisation, unemployment, disease, social and moral disintegration, state tolerated gangsterism and imminent starvation. The longer this continues, the more pressures for lifting sanctions will revive, and powers such as Russia, France and Turkey will find humanitarian cover for their political—and commercial—motives.

By surreptitiously working for his rehabilitation, they persuade President Saddam that he can hang on. Provided his security services can keep the people under control, he may welcome a worsening of the Iraqis' plight as a means of winning international compassion.

The only way for the West to speed up his departure is to back the nearest thing to an organised opposition—the INC. There is no guarantee that it could deliver. But, Mr Zibari says: "You can't confront Saddam without risk."

Perhaps by now, the US and Britain do see the INC as the only valid opposition. Yet they give little practical help. It seems the West and its Arab allies still hanker after a military coup, as opposed to a general insurrection, a coup which would leave the country in safe, autocratic, Sunni hands. They implicitly oppose the democratic solution for which the INC stands, the free play of political forces in which the majority Shi'ites find influence proportionate to their number. The fear is that the Shi'ites would fall prey to fundamentalist, expansionist Iran.

Mr Zibari said: "But surely after nearly four years of waiting for this coup, they must know that it is almost impossible to arrange."

A Western declaration of determination to bring President Saddam down would have a dramatic effect. The West could also give financial and technical aid to the embryonic militia being formed in "liberated" Kurdistan. That would galvanise northern cities such as Mosul which, though militantly Sunni, is boiling with unrest.

At a UN Security Council debate last month, it seemed the US favoured a heavy-weapons exclusion zone in the south. The banning of tanks and artillery from around overwhelmingly Shi'ite Basra would be a recipe for rebellion. If President Saddam sent infantry to combat the rebels, the soldiers would almost certainly desert.

It was apparently under pressure from Russia that the US accepted a resolution demanding merely that Iraq withdraw its Republican Guards permanently from the border area. The opposition believes the unspoken reason was fear of domestic revolt.

For the opposition, it is a race against time between the dictator's collapse and establishing institutions to fill the void. But they cannot win it without Western support.

This report may contain copyrighted material. Copying and dissemination is prohibited without permission of the copyright owners.

King Husayn, Rabin Exchange Ratification Documents

King Husayn Delivers Address

JN1011151694 Amman Jordan Television Network in English 1338 GMT 10 Nov 94

[Speech by Jordan's King Husayn at the ceremony marking the exchange of ratification documents between Jordan and Israel in Bet Gavri'el—live, in English]

[FBIS Transcribed Text] Prime Minister Yitzhaq Rabin, my good friends:

I thank God the almighty for blessing us both with the ability to see our long and objective march through to its conclusion.

Yesterday in Jordan, the treaty of peace between the Hashemite Kingdom of Jordan and the State of Israel passed through its final constitutional phases. It is a privilege and a pleasure for me to be able to be with you here today to exchange these documents and to share with you the feeling that our long search and determined efforts has put us on the threshold of the beginning that is worthy of us all and worthy of our peoples, the threshold of peace—which I hope generations to come will cherish, protect, and enjoy—the breaking of the dawn for their talents and resources to come together and build and achieve what is worthy of them. We hope and pray that this important event will be one of many as all search for a comprehensive peace in this region and for the better future, which is our people's right. I would like to express my thanks to you, Prime Minister, to your colleagues, as indeed I do to my colleagues from Jordan, my brother the crown prince, who has represented me time and again and helped oversee this process to this happy conclusion, the prime minister, the Jordanian team, everyone who approached peace with determination and hope and pride. This is an honorable peace, a balanced peace, a peace that will last because from the first instant it was our determination to make it so.

Today in this beautiful place, in this scenic spot, I would like to thank all of you for the very warm welcome we have received and share with you a commitment to fight to preserve peace as we struggled in the past in our search for it. I am sure that generations to come will build on what we have established in the way of solid foundations and we wish them the best.

Thank you very, very much indeed. May God's peace and blessings be upon you. [preceding sentence in Arabic]

Rabin Gives Speech

TA1011143694 Jerusalem Qol Yisra'el in Hebrew 1343 GMT 10 Nov 94

[Speech by Israel's Prime Minister Yitzhaq Rabin at ceremony marking the exchange of ratification documents between Jordan and Israel in Bet Gavri'el—live, in English]

[FBIS Translated Text] Your Majesty, King Husayn; your brother, the crown prince; Prime Minister al-Majali; your colleagues; my colleagues, Foreign Minister Peres and the two members of the Knesset representing the two major parties—Member of the Knesset David Levi, who was the foreign minister of Israel, and Member of the Knesset Eli Goldschmidt—both of them live here along the Jordan River, from Deganya to Bet She'an; my other Israeli colleagues; ladies and gentlemen: Our peace treaty with you, Your Majesty, with your country, was ratified even before we signed it, and there was a national consensus in which 105 members of the Knesset from most of the major parties supported it and its expression of unique relations, admiration to your leadership, as the king of Jordan, and our dreams, aspirations to sign peace treaty with you that was common to the majority of the people of Israel came into being. I believe that what we have done now, exchanged the ratified peace treaty between Jordan and Israel, that today we start to count the days, the months which is so much specified in the peace treaty what will have to be done to materialize it, not just to sign it, not just to write it, but really, to make it a viable, entirely different relationship between our two countries and our two peoples.

I believe this is the most beautiful scene to do the most beautiful act to end not the state of war—this we decided in the Washington Declaration in Washington—but to establish the structure of peace, to build the relations of peace, and I am sure that on this occasion I can tell you that the people of Israel are more than eager to see it be materialized, to see a unique relations develop between our two countries to the benefit of the peoples of the two countries and to serve as an example what peace can bring about in our region by focusing to build it between our two countries and our two peoples.

No doubt in my mind that this is a unique, historic day. It's the second peace treaty that we signed, the first one since the convening of the Madrid Peace Conference three years ago, which shows that with a goodwill, with determination, with the courage, peace is attainable, and I hope that it will serve as an example to the other countries with which we negotiate peace, with Syria, Lebanon, and they will be convinced by what we have achieved together, Your Majesty, and they will follow what has been done between our two countries, between you, Your Majesty, and myself.

I believe our aspirations is to achieve a comprehensive peace in which all the neighboring Arab countries and the Palestinians will solve the problems between them for the purpose of having an entirely different Middle East, a Middle East in which we all will live in peace, will build a new area, a new relationships, a new cooperation in every aspect of the lives of the countries and the peoples of the region.

Your Majesty, you led your country with courage, imagination, and vision. You led your country and people

This report may contain copyrighted material. Copying and dissemination is prohibited without permission of the copyright owners.

under difficult times, and today I believe it's a day in which we can celebrate together. Thank you very much, Your Majesty. I believe that peace now will be implemented because what we have signed, because of the determination of our two countries and our two peoples to live in real peace. Thank you very much; thank you all. Shalom, salaam, and peace.

King Husayn-Rabin Meeting Detailed

JN1011192894 Amman Jordan Television Network in Arabic 1800 GMT 10 Nov 94

[FBIS Translated Text] His Majesty King Husayn and Israeli Prime Minister Yitzhaq Rabin held a meeting at Lake Tiberias this afternoon in the presence of His Highness Crown Prince Hasan. The meeting was attended by senior officials from both sides. The two sides discussed the measures and steps that should be taken to implement the provisions of the peace treaty between Jordan and Israel. This includes placing marks along the newly demarcated borders, redeploying the Armed Forces of both sides along these borders, and fixing a date for the border committee's next meetings. Discussion also dealt with the issue of water and constructing dams on the Jordan and al-Yarmuk Rivers to store water and to begin pumping and diverting it to Jordan.

During the meeting, the two sides discussed means to implement the provisions of the peace treaty in the fields of electrical and telephone linkage. The two sides also discussed the results of the Casablanca economic conference and the joint regional economic projects between the two sides, which will contribute to developing the region's economies and to improving the standard of living in order to reinforce and consecrate the bases of peace in the region.

Moreover, the two sides held talks on recent developments on the Israeli-Palestinian track of negotiations. The Israeli prime minister briefed His Majesty King Husayn on the latest results reached by negotiators on this track. They also discussed a number of regional and international issues of common concern.

The meeting was attended by Dr. 'Abd-al-Salam al-Majali, the prime minister; al-Sharif Zayd Bin-Shakir, chief of the Royal Hashemite Court; Marwan al-Qasim, his majesty the king's political adviser; and Jawad al-'Anani, the minister of information. Attending on the Israeli side were Foreign Minister Shim'on Peres, the Israeli Foreign Ministry's director general, and a number of senior officials in the Israeli Government and Foreign Ministry.

King Husayn, Rabin Hold News Conference

TA1011161294 Jerusalem New Channel 2 Television Network in Hebrew 1523 GMT 10 Nov 94

["Impromptu" news conference by Jordan's King Husayn and Israel's Prime Minister Yitzhaq Rabin with Israeli correspondents in Bet Gavri'el on the shores of Lake Tiberias following their meeting—live; italicized passages in English]

[FBIS Translated Text] [Channel 2 political correspondent 'Imanu'el Rosen] *King Husayn, I just want to ask you: This is the first time that we see you in Israel, but I guess it is not your first time in Israel. Can you tell us today how many times you have been here secretly?*

[Husayn] *Many, many times. I can only say that the commitment was always there for establishing the kind of peace we have now, and it has been a long way, but I am very, very happy indeed that we are there now, and with the promise of peace and friendship and cooperation and the noblest of feelings amongst our people for all the times.*

[Unidentified correspondent] *Your Majesty, are you happy with the conversation you had last night with Chairman 'Arafat after a very long time?*

[Husayn] *As you know, he made a call to me yesterday, and I was very, very pleased that he suggested that we should be in touch. Of course, we have always welcomed that anytime, and he did suggest that this meeting with the prime minister was a great success, and I am very, very happy about that. I assured him that many of us want him to succeed. Whether he believes it or not is up to him, but this is really the truth.*

[Correspondent] *Your Majesty, I won't ask you about coming to Jerusalem because you'll come soon, but when will be the next time to Israel that you already know?*

[Husayn] *I am already here now. I really don't know exactly when, but I hope it will be in the near future, and I think that what we have agreed on is that we should keep up our contacts and our ties at every level.*

[Israel TV Channel 1 political correspondent Gad Sukenik] Mr. Rabin, did you invite King Husayn to visit again?

[Rabin] The answer is affirmative. I did so not today but some time ago. *I offered to his majesty, King Husayn, to come and to visit Jerusalem not now but in the past, and whenever he'll decide, he'll be more than welcome in Jerusalem.*

[Rosen] Mr. Prime Minister, you referred today again to this precedent or to your hope that the Syrians and Lebanese will learn from the agreement with Jordan. Do you view the agreement with Jordan as a precedent for the agreement with Syria?

[Rabin] I did not say that. My remarks were made in the context that Jordan and Israel managed to overcome differences of opinion and achieved an honorable, just, and real peace. I will also say that in English. *The agreement or the peace treaty that was signed between Jordan and Israel is just, with dignity to the two sides, and we did not seek any one square inch of Jordan. We believe that peace has to be established on the international*

This report may contain copyrighted material. Copying and dissemination is prohibited without permission of the copyright owners.

border of the past. Slight modifications here and there on equal footage, and I believe this was the right solution, the acceptable one, dignified, respectful, with the purpose to create conditions that will allow us to cooperate effectively for the interest of our two peoples and two countries, and hopefully for the whole region.

[Qol Yisra'el's Shlomo Raz] *His Majesty, the prime minister talks about the necessity to make this peace a reality. What Jordan should be in order to contribute to it?*

[Husayn] *As far as I am concerned, we have waited for far too long, and now it is there. We will do everything we can, as rapidly as we can, and we will do it as partners with friends, to ensure that this is the beginning of the promise that has been there for so long, and now is a reality, the beginning of real peace between us.*

King Husayn 'Satisfied' With Talks

JN1011171394 Jerusalem Qol Yisra'el in Arabic 1546 GMT 10 Nov 94

[Interview with Jordan's King Husayn at the end of talks with Israel's Prime Minister Yitzhaq Rabin by As'ad 'Attar at the Conference Hall in Bet Gavri'el on 10 November; from the "With the Events" feature—recorded]

[FBIS Translated Text] ['Attar] Your Majesty the King: How were the talks with the prime minister?

[Husayn] The talks were like the talks we have previously held—they were positive in the fullest sense of the word. We meet as friends, given the new promising dawn, the dawn of peace that will influence all. We discuss all issues; we discuss what we have to do together in all areas and spheres. God be praised, the results are all good and comfortable.

['Attar] Your Majesty the King: When will you visit Jerusalem?

[Husayn] Very soon, God willing.

['Attar] In your opinion, how can the Israeli-Jordanian agreement influence talks on the Syrian track of negotiations?

[Husayn] We beseech God to render a success the efforts of all to achieve comprehensive peace in the region. This is the goal of all of us.

'Suicide Bicyclist' Sets Off Explosives Near Gaza

Three Killed; 12 Wounded

TA1111124894 Jerusalem Qol Yisra'el in Hebrew 1239 GMT 11 Nov 94

[Report by Nisim Qeynan in Gaza]

[FBIS Translated Text] A short time ago, I spoke with Commander Shim'on Levi of the southern police district, who said that, based on initial information, the attack was perpetrated by a suicide bicyclist who had strapped powerful explosives around his person and set them off close to the junction, near vehicles from Gaza and Israel. Three people were killed and 12 wounded. Six of the wounded are Israelis; all the others are Arabs. The condition of the wounded is unknown, but there are seriously wounded among them.

Large police, army, and Border Police units are at the site, and the Palestinian Authority is already carrying out a wave of detentions in the area. Like all other journalists, we are nea: the junction, but we cannot get to the site itself until the rescue efforts are completed.

Islamic Jihad Member Said Responsible

TA1111145794 Tel Aviv IDF Radio in Hebrew 1403 GMT 11 Nov 94

[Report by Eli Bohadan in Gaza]

[FBIS Translated Text] The attack occurred at around 1400 [1200 GMT]. A terrorist riding a bicycle rammed into an IDF [Israel Defense Forces] position. Seven Israelis were hit by the blast, which killed three of them. Large army forces reached the site. Five Palestinians were also wounded. The four Israeli casualties were evacuated by helicopter to Soroka and Tel Hashomer Hospitals. Two Israelis sustained serious wounds, and two others suffered slight to moderate injuries.

The terrorist, a member of the Islamic Jihad, was a student of Hani al-'Abid, a leader of the organization who was assassinated two weeks ago. Palestinian sources said the young man perpetrated the attack in retaliation for al-'Abid's murder. Palestinian and Israeli security forces are currently cooperating at the site of the attack. They are now clearing the debris from the demolished army position.

Rabin Criticizes Netzarim Settlement

TA1311181694 Jerusalem Qol Yisra'el in English 0500 GMT 13 Nov 94

[FBIS Transcribed Text] The Prime Minister's Office in Jerusalem says Israel stands by its demand that the Palestinian Authority [PA] must prevent attacks which originate in its territory. With that, Prime Minister Yitzhaq Rabin last night again spoke critically of the existence of the Netzarim settlement, which is located close to where Friday's [11 November] attack took place. David Ze'ev reports:

[Begin recording] [Ze'ev] Israeli officials are not expressing regret that just three days before Friday's attack Israel agreed to move ahead with the next stages of the Oslo Accord with the Palestinians. Prime Minister Yitzhaq Rabin said last night that the PA and its chairman, Yasir 'Arafat, are not the enemies but rather Israel's partner in peace. Still, Rabin media adviser 'Oded Ben-'Ami said last night Israel stands by its demand that the PA must prevent any action which

This report may contain copyrighted material. Copying and dissemination is prohibited without permission of the copyright owners.

originates from its territory. The attack took place near the settlement of Netzarim, an isolated Jewish settlement in the Strip, which has been at the receiving end of some sharp criticism in the past from both the prime minister and Foreign Minister Shim'on Peres, because they say so many soldiers are required in order to provide security for the one settlement. In his address last night in Jerusalem, the prime minister referred to that criticism:

[Rabin] It's not the settlers that protect the soldiers, the soldiers protect the settlements and the settlers, and this is their responsibility. These officers got killed in protection of the free movement and safe movement of few settlers from Netzarim to Israel. It's our responsibility, it's the government commitment to the settlers. But they got killed in defense of the free movement of the settlers there. There could be other victims.

[Ze'ev] The Rabin media adviser said the cabinet would hear a report on the suicide attack at the weekly meeting this morning, but he would not comment on what measures Israel might decide to take in light of this latest incident. The adviser would only say at this point there is nothing to announce. [end recording]

Opposition, Coalition Figures React

TA1111152294

[FBIS Editorial Report] Jerusalem Qol Yisra'el in Hebrew at 1400 GMT on 11 November carries a report by Shmu'el Tal on reactions to the 11 November incident in which three people were killed and several wounded at the Netzarim junction: "Labor Secretary General Nisim Zvili says the terrorists' skulls should be crushed and an all-out war should be waged against radical Islamic terror.

"Likud Chairman Binyamin Netanyahu urges the prime minister to stop the negotiations and to demand that 'Arafat curb terrorism. Netanyahu noted that only yesterday, 'Arafat called on his men and on his Hamas [Islamic Resistance Movement] and Islamic Jihad allies to continue their fierce struggle until all of Palestine is liberated, and today's act was their response to his call."

Jerusalem Qol Yisra'el in Hebrew at 1420 GMT on 11 November carries a report by Hayim Hecht, adding: "Today's grave event has provoked razor-sharp reactions from opposition parties. The Likud says: The Israeli nation continues to pay for Rabin's inane policy. Likud Knesset Member [MK] 'Uzi Landau says: Each Rabin-'Arafat meeting, in which new concessions are made, gives new impetus to terror, and another bomb goes off after each meeting.

"The NRP [National Religious Party] states: The Netzarim attack is another confirmation of the government's inadequate policy. MK Sha'ul Yahalom is demanding that Rabin send a special task force into Gaza at once to capture the wanted terrorists and thwart future attacks.

"Tzomet states: Here is more proof that the Palestinians do no seek peace and that all they want is Jewish blood. MK Refa'el Eytan is demanding that Rabin stop the negotiations with 'Arafat immediately until such time as 'Arafat proves that he can provide complete calm in areas under his jurisdiction.

"Moledet sees the attack as proof that ceremonies and prizes are not enough. Rehav'am Ze'evi says: Yitzhaq Rabin has again proved that he is far from being the security fiend he believes himself to be.

"Coalition Chairman Eli Dayan says that if we reach a situation where we have no choice, the IDF [Israel Defense Forces] will be compelled to enter the Gaza Strip and to mete out justice to the Hamas squads."

Peres Rejects 'Seige' on Gaza

TA1211152294 Jerusalem Qol Yisra'el in Hebrew 0805 GMT 12 Nov 94

[Telephone interview with Foreign Minister Shim'on Peres by Hayim Hecht; place not given—live]

[FBIS Translated Excerpt] [passage omitted] [Hecht] Do you not fear a Lebanonization of the Gaza Strip?

[Peres] Look, perils always exist. The question is not what I fear; the question is what should be done. It is entirely clear to me that if we impose a siege on Gaza, leaving people stranded, the situation will deteriorate. We have to take dual action: both against Hamas [Islamic Resistance Movement] and against the support for Hamas, which may become very widespread. These are two different issues. To fight the terrorist aspect, both we and the Palestinians must make an intelligence effort, because the correct way to fight suicide operators is by discovering their plans in advance; action is hardly possible after the act. This should be our main endeavor.

At the same time, we must find ways to change the economic situation in Gaza, where 800,000 people live in terrible concentration. Problems cannot be solved with weapons alone or even through intelligence gathering alone. We must strive to change the situation in order to shift popular support from Hamas to an alternative power. [passage omitted]

[Hecht] Mr. Peres, was it not a mistake to assassinate Hani 'Abid, thereby shifting the war on terror to the realm of eliminating the leaders?

[Peres] First of all, I refuse to engage in a discussion on that. I do not think anyone has said that we did it. I do not think it should be done, and I do not think this discussion is the right forum for such an issue. Anyway, this Hani may have done what his disciple did [at Netzarim on 11 November]. [passage omitted]

[Hecht] Judging by what the Palestinians are asserting, a car drove the terrorist up to the Netzarim junction, where he got off and carried out the bombing riding a bicycle. Thus, the preparation of the explosives, their

This report may contain copyrighted material. Copying and dissemination is prohibited without permission of the copyright owners.

being strapped to the terrorist, and the organizational infrastructure were all conducted under the very eyes of the Palestinian security services. Can we not demand action from them?

[Peres] There is no argument; we should demand that of them. Right now, we are all mourning, and our hearts go out to the bereaved families. Theirs is the hardest situation of all. I know how hard it is to send condolences, but receiving them is the hardest. Nevertheless, we must take an orderly view of the situation. First of all, the Palestinians should undoubtedly gather pertinent information, and we must insist that they acquire it and draw the appropriate conclusions from it. There is no argument about that. At the same time, we must see to it that the situation in Gaza changes, because crowded conditions, closure, and pressure will generate a negative reaction. This is one of the dangers of the Lebanonization of the situation.

[Hecht] Sir, yesterday we heard the chief of staff say at Netzarim—as you have just said—that we demand that the Palestinian police take every possible measure. This statement, made by the supreme IDF [Israel Defense Forces] commander, sounded very shabby, even pathetic. Look at the situation into which the chief of staff was drawn: Instead of using the force at his disposal, he appealed to someone....

[Peres, interrupting] I do not know what you are talking about. Were there no suicide attacks when we used force? Is it only a matter of using force? We are dealing here with a most dangerous underground which sends a constantly growing number of suicide operators. This is the problem. I do not understand: Are statements the issue here? The problem is how to get down to an appropriate operational level and what specific demands to make of the Palestinian Authority and, concurrently, what to put at its disposal in order to enable it to take charge. [passage omitted]

[Hecht] Sir, I would like to end by tying this in with politics. We are attentive to popular sentiment, and we heard people say yesterday and this morning that one or two more attacks like this will topple the government. Are you aware of the way the public translates distress and anxiety into partisan and political currency?

[Peres] Look, the problem has nothing to do with politics. Have there been no terrorist attacks or problems under other regimes? Did we--the various parties—solve anything by staying in Gaza for 26 years? The situation only kept deteriorating. And what will happen in 10 years—even if another party takes over—when 1.2 million live in the same crowded conditions in Gaza? Will the situation be any better? I refuse to view the situation from a political angle, and I will not be swayed by this or that person. We must do whatever it takes, and we must do it honestly and responsibly. There is no room for politics here; neither am I afraid of it.

[Hecht] Thank you very much, Foreign Minister Shim'on Peres.

Likud MK's, Minister Sne React

TA1211165394 Jerusalem Qol Yisra'el in English 1600 GMT 12 Nov 94

[FBIS Translated Excerpt] Members of the opposition have responded sharply to the Netzarim attack. Likud Knesset Member [MK] Ari'el Sharon has called for the establishment of an emergency national unity government in order, in his words, to bring security back to Israeli citizens and restore the IDF [Israel Defense Forces] to its former glory.

Likud MK Ron Nahman demanded that the chief of staff and his deputy resign.

Health Minister Efrayim Sne said it was time for the Palestinian Authority to seize the historical moment and take charge of the Gaza Strip. [passage omitted]

Sarid: Netzarim Decision Cannot Be Delayed

TA1311085994 Jerusalem Qol Yisra'el in Hebrew 0800 GMT 13 Nov 94

[FBIS Translated Text] Minister Yosi Sarid says security arrangements in the Gaza Strip are not good enough, because of the inconceivable spread of the settlements in the area. Minister Sarid told Qol Yisra'el that it is preferable not to discuss this immediately after an attack was carried out but that it is impossible to delay a decision regarding places like Netzarim much longer. Sarid also said he is in favor of a permanent and prolonged closure on the Gaza Strip, on the condition that Israel pay the Palestinian Authority the total sum of what the Palestinian workers would have earned in Israel, a little over 1 billion shekels.

Deputy Defense Minister Mordekhay Gur told Qol Yisra'el that Israel should adhere to the Oslo Agreement while continuing to fight terrorism and refraining from talk of relocating settlements.

'Arafat Urged To Disarm Hamas, Islamic Jihad

TA1311103894 Jerusalem Qol Yisra'el in Hebrew 1000 GMT 13 Nov 94

[FBIS Translated Text] Prime Minister Yitzhaq Rabin says Yasir 'Arafat has far from exhausted what he can do against Hamas [Islamic Resistance Movement] and Islamic Jihad, adding that Israel must demand that he disarm the members of these two organizations. During the security briefing at today's cabinet session, Yitzhaq Rabin said that the political process should continue but that there is no need to run amok toward the Palestinians. The prime minister said that the peace process will be harmed if we cannot deal with terrorism. Our political correspondent Shlomo Raz reports that Mr. Rabin expressed concern about the increase in the number of terror victims within the Green Line. He noted that the Shin Bet's hold in the Gaza Strip has been undermined by the withdrawal from that area.

This report may contain copyrighted material. Copying and dissemination is prohibited without permission of the copyright owners.

Minister Ya'aqov Tzur called for the relocation of the settlement of Netzarim in the Qatif Bloc and the total separation of Israelis and Palestinians from the territories in the transportation sphere as well.

Peres: 'No Problem' Acting Against Activists

TA1311195794 Jerusalem Qol Yisra'el in Hebrew 1900 GMT 13 Nov 94

[FBIS Translated Text] Foreign Minister Shim'on Peres has said that if information is received on the whereabouts of Hamas [Islamic Resistance Movement] and Islamic Jihad activists in the Gaza Strip, taking action against them should constitute no problem. Peres said that nothing should hamper Israel's efforts to prevent murders. The foreign minister said that the main problem lay in the intelligence work involved in identifying the culprits.

Our correspondent Gay Qotev said that Peres was speaking at the opening of an international conference on religious and political issues in the Middle East at the Hebrew University.

General Vows To Strike at Hizballah

NC1311093394 Kafr Killa Voice of the South in Arabic 0800 GMT 13 Nov 94

[FBIS Translated Text] General (Igor 'Inbar), the commander of the Liaison Unit, has stated that the Israeli army and the South Lebanese Army [SLA] will locate Hizballah positions and centers in preparation for dealing them an accurate blow at the appropriate time and in a way that will guarantee that civilians, the UN Interim Force in Lebanon [UNIFIL], and Lebanese Army personnel will not be harmed.

During a visit yesterday to the Marj 'Uyun Hospital to see SLA personnel wounded in Sujud and Kafr Huna recently and answering a question by our correspondent, Gen. ('Inbar) said that the escalation of acts of sabotage is normal. He said: We will continue to strike at the saboteurs and the enemies of peace with an iron fist and, at the same time, work for peace. We will not allow these saboteurs to attack us and our civilians.

On threats by Hizballah officials to liquidate SLA officers and personnel, Gen. ('Inbar) said that these threats are not new, adding that Hizballah has been trying to destroy SLA personnel for years. Hizballah has not succeeded, except in some cases. He noted that the SLA officers and personnel will continue the war against the saboteurs with the help of the Israeli army and civilians in this area. He noted that the best proof of this is what happened to a group of saboteurs yesterday when they tried to infiltrate near al- Rayhan and were struck by the SLA.

On Israel's stance should the Lebanese Government agree to the Israeli conditions relating to withdrawal from the south and sign a peace treaty on the condition that the SLA merge with the Lebanese army, Gen. ('Inbar) said: I am no politician but I want to state that the Lebanese Government will not refuse to merge the SLA personnel, who are elite fighters in Lebanon. The Lebanese Government will need them to safeguard its territory and fight terrorism. Several Middle Eastern countries are confronting acts of terrorism. I can see nothing to prevent the SLA joining the Lebanese Army, he concluded.

Foreign Ministry Paper Terms Clinton 'Lame Duck'

TA1111110694 Tel Aviv HA'ARETZ in Hebrew 11 Nov 94 pp A1, A2

[Report by political correspondent Aluf Ben]

[FBIS Translated Excerpt] Israel will be required to make a comprehensive change in its methods of operation, and that of its supporters, in Washington. Henceforth it will have to lay more stress on cooperating with the leadership of the new Congress. This is the main recommendation of a position paper prepared by the Foreign Ministry's Policy Planning Department in the aftermath of the political turnaround in the United States.

The document, which was submitted to Foreign Minister Peres and the top ministry echelon yesterday, states that "a change of priorities is required. We are used to channeling most of our contacts with the administration through the peace team headed by Dennis Ross. We will now have to broaden the scope of our operations. An intensive effort is required vis-a-vis the Republicans, without ignoring the Democrats, in order to ensure bipartisan support for the peace process."

The document proposes to reorganize AIPAC [American Israel Public Affairs Committee], the pro-Israeli lobby in Washington, in order to accommodate the new political reality in Washington. "AIPAC will have to reevaluate its work methods in Congress. At present AIPAC is made up of persons identified with the Democrats; now it will be necessary to bring in people who are identified with the Republicans," the document adds.

The document states that "the elections constitute a historic shift which has put the official stamp on the Republican Party's status as the majority party in the United States." Referring to President Bill Clinton, the document states he will become a "lame duck." "It is too early to bury him politically, but his ability to act and to pass legislation based on his platform has been seriously undermined." For this reason, "it is necessary to take with a grain of salt any statements made by the President on aid to Israel and on help for minimizing the risks of peace, and to reexamine them in light of the question of whether Congress will approve his initiatives."

The document further states: "The Republicans support Israel, but they could oppose Clinton's foreign policy initiatives precisely out of what they consider a concern

This report may contain copyrighted material. Copying and dissemination is prohibited without permission of the copyright owners.

for Israel's interests. They could oppose, for example, sending soldiers to the Golan Heights. It is doubtful whether a Republican-dominated Congress would agree to increase direct foreign aid, something that will be required if there is a breakthrough in negotiations with Syria. Supplementary aid will become a greater problem, because new customers will be involved—Jordan, Syria, and Lebanon."

The document expresses concern for the future of the aid promised by Clinton to Husayn for encouraging Jordan to move forward in the peace process. It also casts doubts on the plan for a regional Middle East development bank, because the Republicans are likely to oppose American funding for a Middle East bank.

Defense establishment sources, on the other hand, do not expect changes in the defense aid to Israel or in the funding of joint projects, mainly the development of the Arrow missile. A senior security source yesterday said that Israel has never encountered opposition to the aid and joint projects from Republican congressmen.

Defense Ministry Director General David 'Ivri will depart to Washington next week at the head of an Israeli delegation to the annual JSAP [Joint Security Assistance and Planning Group] meeting. The Israeli delegation will present a strategic briefing and will review the IDF's [Israel Defense Forces] needs. A discussion will be held on planning the use of military aid—$1.8 billion, $475 million of which can be converted into shekels—in anticipation of the submission to Congress of the next fiscal year's aid request. A senior security source assessed that no special difficulties are expected at the JSAP meeting. [passage omitted]

This report may contain copyrighted material. Copying and dissemination is prohibited without permission of the copyright owners.

King Husayn, Delegation Return From Israel

JN1011195494 Amman Jordan Television Network in Arabic 1800 GMT 10 Nov 94

[FBIS Translated Text] His Majesty King Husayn and the delegation accompanying him returned to Amman this evening after taking part in the ceremony marking the exchange of ratification documents for the peace treaty between Jordan and Israel, which was held at Lake Tiberias. His Highness Crown Prince Hasan and the delegation accompanying him also returned. His majesty was seen off by Israeli Prime Minister Yitzhaq Rabin and Foreign Minister Shim'on Peres.

Al-'Anani on Post-Peace Treaty Measures

JN1111205694 Amman Jordan Television Network in Arabic 1838 GMT 11 Nov 94

[Interview with Dr. Jawad al-'Anani, minister of information and minister of state for cabinet affairs, by correspondent Hani al-Badri in the studio; from the "Sixty Minutes" program—live]

[FBIS Translated Text] [Al-Badri] We have with us tonight Dr. Jawad al-'Anani, information minister and minister of state for cabinet affairs. Dr. Jawad, greetings.

[Al-'Anani] Greeting to you.

[Al-Badri] Sir, the ratification of the peace treaty and the exchange of the instruments of ratification yesterday were the last step following all the negotiation efforts and Jordan's ceaseless search for just and honorable peace. What comes after the exchange of the instruments of ratification within the framework of translating the peace treaty on the ground?

[Al-'Anani] I believe that there are some measures the government must take. According to the provisions of the treaty, certain measures should be taken. Some of these measures require amending some laws, or enacting new laws that are in line with the provisions of the treaty and as agreed upon. Preparations also should be made to begin negotiations on some agreements mentioned in the treaty, particularly those dealing with bilateral cooperation. But what is more important, in my opinion, is to start implementing the measures dealing with Jordan's regaining its sovereign rights to the land and water. Therefore, the borders committee, or the borders commission should now meet and start taking steps to remove the barbed wire and clear the area of the mines that are still there. This is because the Israeli forces are supposed to withdraw to the new borders within three months and the borders should be demarcated and markers placed on the ground within a period not to exceed nine months. Also, through the water committee, Israel should start pumping the water agreed upon for the first stage, particularly from the al-Yarmuk River as soon as possible.

The provisions of the treaty call for amending some laws, and for initiating measures to reach cooperation agreements, as well as starting the implementation of the provisions on land, water, and security, and forming the various committees that will carry out these tasks.

[Al-Badri] Dr. Jawad, away from dreams, romanticism, and exaggeration, Jordan has always insisted that the peace to take place should be a peace that first and foremost will affect the people and their standard of living. People wonder what will come after the signing of this treaty? For example, let us begin to wonder about how people will move between Jordan and Israel. Let us speak about the forthcoming steps to translate the contents of this treaty on the ground and its affects on the people.

[Al-'Anani] You should know that all these measures did not exist in the past. Therefore, measures should be taken. In the past, if people wanted to enter the Palestinian territories they used to go with permits that were issued by the pertinent Israeli authorities and they used to go from the Palestinian territories to Israel with special permits issued for that occasion. We are not speaking about something that is completely new. We should now make new arrangements that will facilitate the people's entry such as what documents they should carry, how to go in and how to go out, what permits are needed—can one go with his car or not? I believe there is a committee which will discuss these arrangements, and perhaps agreement could be reached within one or one and half months.

[Al-Badri] This is with respect to the Jordanian-Israeli relationship. What about the relationship between Jordan and the brothers in the West Bank? His Highness Crown Prince Hasan mentioned a few days ago that, for example, the issue of the postal services stipulated in the Jordanian-Israeli peace treaty is actually a service with the kinsfolk in the occupied territories, a service that emphasizes that Jordan is the lung through which the brothers breathe.

[Al-'Anani] Since 1967, Jordan has been the only Arab country that kept the bridges open with the West Bank and the Gaza Strip and the people used to breathe through this outlet. Of course, there was a smaller opening from Gaza to Egypt. But, Jordan was the main opening, as I said, for the inhabitants of the occupied Arab territories. This issue will have additional importance in the not too distant future. Also, it is illogical for us to enter into agreements with Israel without combining this with clear agreements and arrangements with the Palestinian National Authority to make it easier for the people to go and come, carry out trade, and carry out transactions. I believe this gives our people in the Palestinian territories another chance to live a normal life. If the Israeli individual is happy to be able to come to Jordan, then I believe the Palestinian citizen ought to enjoy the same thing. This is something that needs only a meeting between officials and the adoption of the necessary measures for this.

[Al-Badri] Let us return to the Jordanian-Israeli peace treaty. The development of the Jordan Valley is a great

This report may contain copyrighted material. Copying and dissemination is prohibited without permission of the copyright owners.

slogan and plan put forward by Jordan. This plan was put forward at the Casablanca summit, and now we are waiting for what will happen in this respect, especially since hopes are pinned on this plan to create job opportunities and revolutionize comprehensive development in the region. What do you have to say in this respect?

[Al-'Anani] First of all, it should be clear in our minds that the Jordan Valley region, particularly the tract extending from al- 'Aqabah to the south of the Dead Sea has witnessed little construction activity, and is almost completely unexploited. This region has not been active. Now, however, this region has a chance to grow. It needs major infrastructure projects. But these projects will not be useful in some instances unless there is cooperation on both sides—the Israeli and Jordanian sides. The biggest project that could be carried out there is building a canal between the two seas, for reasons related to ecology, waters, investment, industry, and tourism. In addition, we should provide water to irrigate the soil in that region. It is said that the vast expanse of territory in that region is cultivable and good for animal husbandry if we can find the appropriate means for that. The region is also a center of attraction, because this large territory of Jordan is not invested. Therefore, there is a very small number of people there. We know that progress and development attract more people. This scheme was basically a Jordanian scheme. The outline of this plan was agreed on. Now it is possible to study this project. We have received the first installment to finance a study of the feasibility of this project. Once we finish this, its implementation will start in stages. We know that the development of the Jordan Valley will take at least 10 years. That is why the project will be carried out over a period of time.

[Al-Badri] Finally, we are waiting for the Amman economic summit, which follows the Casablanca summit, next year. Many nations are participating in this summit, which will be held under the slogan of economic cooperation in the Middle East. What do we expect to gain at the Amman economic summit, which is awaited eagerly by the whole world?

[Al-'Anani] We know that the Casablanca summit had a basic political dimension, that is, the whole region has decided to start a new phase of economic cooperation. As for the Amman conference, it cannot be Casablanca II. It has to be Amman I. I mean that the Amman conference has its distinct character, even though it will build on what has been achieved at the Casablanca summit. Therefore, I think that we should move from generalities to specific issues. The Jordanian, Arab, and foreign investors should come up with specific, feasible projects.

Second, this should be accompanied by a clear idea of the projects and legislation that should be enacted so that we can create an appropriate investment climate.

Third, there should be clear legislation, as well as measures that should be adopted by the government because those who want to launch ventures should know that legislation is clear and permanent. This is because if the investors are not reassured and do not have permanent legislation, then this will affect the profits of their projects. I think that the Amman conference will maintain the overall structure and the general framework of the projects, because each project should be chosen carefully and they should be linked to each other to give better yield. At the same time, the projects should be feasible, identifiable, and their sources of finance should be clear. Therefore, I think that the Amman conference requires great efforts. I hope it will bring about a qualitative shift in the region, and particularly in Jordan.

[Al-Badri] We hope so. Thank you, Dr. al-'Anani.

Al-Majali Receives Palestinian Security Commander

JN1011172094 Amman Jordan Television Network in Arabic 1600 GMT 10 Nov 94

[FBIS Translated Text] Prime Minister Dr. 'Abd-al-Salam al-Majali received in his office today Major General Nasr Yusuf, commander of the Palestinian National Security and Police Force in the Palestinian National Authority. Interior Minister Salamah Hammad attended. During the meeting, the prime minister reiterated Jordan's willingness to offer its support to the Palestinian brothers in all fields.

Husayn-'Arafat Summit Expected in 'Very Near Future'

JN1111075494 Amman AL-DUSTUR in Arabic 11 Nov 94 pp 1, 18

[Report by Tawfiq 'Abid]

[FBIS Translated Text] Reliable sources at the Palestinian Embassy in Amman expect a Jordanian-Palestinian summit in Amman in the very near future following the success of an Egyptian-Moroccan mediation to clear the air between Jordan and the National Authority.

Asked about the meeting of the Joint Jordanian-Palestinian Committee, which was supposed to meet on a ministerial level in the first 10 days of this month, these sources said: The next meetings will be on a higher level. They will be held very soon and will be a surprise to everyone.

We asked these sources: Do you mean a Jordanian-Palestinian summit? They said preparations are under way for such an event, and noted the phone contact between Palestinian President Yasir 'Arafat and His Majesty King Husayn the day before yesterday.

The sources said: President 'Arafat briefed Husayn on the outcome of his meeting with Israeli Prime Minister Yitzhaq Rabin on Tuesday [8 November] at the Erez

This report may contain copyrighted material. Copying and dissemination is prohibited without permission of the copyright owners.

crossing point between Gaza and the 1948 territory, and exchanged views on the developments of the political process in the Arab region.

The sources added: The statements by His Highness Crown Prince Hasan and Prime Minister Dr. 'Abd-al-Salam al-Majali about the religious custodianship over the holy places in Jerusalem, and the fact that they will be handed over to the Palestinian Authority once the Israeli occupation is removed, were widely welcome by Palestinian officials and helped to remove many obstacles.

REUTER has quoted Ahmad Quray', official in charge of the economic affairs at the Palestinian Self-Rule Authority, as saying: I believe nothing prevents a summit meeting between His Majesty King Husayn and Chairman 'Arafat this month.

Quray', also known as Abu-'Ala', said: Undoubtedly, the Jordanian-Palestinian relations require a quick meeting between the two leaders. He added that any delay will harm, and not benefit, Palestinian-Jordanian relations.

Quray' said: The two leaders must respond to the convictions, demands, and interests of the Palestinian and Jordanian people. He added: Coordination is needed between the two people in view of the historical and social relations between them.

Nabil Abu-Rudaynah, 'Arafat's media adviser, said that the Palestinian leader the night before last telephoned His Majesty King Husayn and discussed with him the latest developments in the peace process.

Opposition Expands After Treaty With 'Enemy'

JN1411111494 Amman AL-MAJD in Arabic 14 Nov 94 pp 1, 11

[FBIS Translated Excerpt] Jordanian opposition parties have made qualitative progress by succeeding in expanding the opposition parties' coalition. The Progressive Arab Ba'th Party, the Constitutional Jordanian Arab Front Party, and the Jordanian Democratic Progressive Party joined the other opposition parties, increasing the number of the opposition parties within the coalition to 11. This important development was possible only after resolving the sharp differences between the two Ba'th parties, the pro-Iraq Arab Socialist Ba'th Party and the pro-Syria Progressive Arab Ba'th Party.

The expansion of the opposition alliance against the background of the government's accelerated conclusion of the peace treaty with the enemy intensified preparations for a general popular conference that seeks to activate the Jordanian popular base toward rejecting the treaty and redistributing roles and tasks to resist the repercussions of peace and normalization. [passage omitted]

First Groups of Israeli Tourists Arrive on Tour

JN1411094294 Amman AL-MAJD in Arabic 14 Nov 94 p 1

[Unattributed report: "Zionist Tourists Visit Amman Today"]

[FBIS Translated Text] Three groups of tourists carrying Israeli passports crossed into Jordan via the northern border crossing to visit Jordanian historical places, starting with Umm Qays and Jarash. This is the first practical implementation of the Jordanian-Israeli peace treaty.

Today, Monday, these groups will tour the capital Amman and then go to Ma'daba. They will visit Petra and Wadi Musa on Wednesday and leave for al-'Aqabah and return to Israel via the Wadi al-'Arabah crossing on the fourth day.

The cost of the tour is $319 per person. This is the first time that Israeli tourists have visited Jordan without using a second country nationality.

[All Amman dailies on 14 November publish REUTER-datelined reports on the tour. Amman AL-RA'Y also publishes a photograph of an Israeli tourist carrying a poster reading "On the Road to Peace" in Arabic, English, and Hebrew]

This report may contain copyrighted material. Copying and dissemination is prohibited without permission of the copyright owners.

Al-Hirawi: Peace Should Be in Return for Land

NC1211170294 Beirut Radio Lebanon in Arabic 1130 GMT 12 Nov 94

[FBIS Translated Text] President Ilyas al-Hirawi has reiterated that there will be no peace without the withdrawal of the last Israeli soldier from Lebanon. He stressed the continuation of coordination with Syria in the interest of a just and comprehensive peace.

Al-Hirawi made these remarks after visiting Bkirki before noon today to congratulate Cardinal Mar Nasralla[illegible]us Sfayr on his appointment as cardinal. Their talks dealt with Lebanese and regional developments, especially developments in the peace process.

NATIONAL NEWS AGENCY correspondent Ahmad 'Izz-al-Din has more:

[Begin 'Izz-al-Din recording] President Ilyas al-Hirawi has affirmed Lebanon's eagerness for peace to be in return for land and that no Israeli soldier should remain on Lebanese soil. He said: I am confident that peace will prevail in this region and that Lebanon will enjoy a prosperous future.

Commenting on Israel's rejection of UN Resolution 425, al-Hirawi said if they do not recognize this resolution, he wonders under what resolution the UN Interim Force in Lebanon was deployed in the south.

President al-Hirawi was speaking in Bkirki, where he visited Patriarch Sfayr to congratulate him on his appointment as cardinal. [end recording]

Al-Hirawi on Palestinian Refugee Issue

NC1411104694 Beirut Radio Lebanon in Arabic 0530 GMT 14 Nov 94

[FBIS Translated Text] In a comprehensive interview with the newspaper AL-SAFIR, President Ilyas al-Hirawi has affirmed that Lebanon will not be the sacrificial lamb of a settlement [of the Arab-Israeli conflict], saying Lebanon remains convinced that the Lebanese and Syrian tracks are parallel. He said that neither Lebanon nor Syria will adopt a unilateral stand. He noted that he has agreed with President al-Asad that [an Israeli withdrawal from] the Golan without the South is rejected and [an Israeli withdrawal from] the South without [an Israeli withdrawal from] the Golan is rejected. Syria and Lebanon are in the same boat.

President al-Hirawi disclosed that the message that he received recently from U.S. President Bill Clinton did not contain any reference to UN Security Council Resolution 425.

President al-Hirawi explained that he knew where his proposal regarding the Lebanese-Israeli negotiations would end up and that Israel's response was that it refuses to recognize Resolution 425. If this resolution does not exist, what did the United Nations Interim Force in Lebanon [UNIFIL] come to do in the South and in accordance with which resolution? He affirmed his adherence to the proposal that he presented, saying: I have an inheritance which I will not forfeit; it is Resolution 425. However, I will not venture again to present the idea of a political-security committee. He added: They say the Lebanese state is weak. However, we are prepared to send 30,000 soldiers [to the South], assisted by UNIFIL. If Israel says it fears for its security in southern Lebanon, the Lebanese state is capable of providing this security.

President al-Hirawi said: I don't believe that normalization between the Jews and the Arab people can take place in 20 or 30 years. The people have grown up on mutual hatred. Israel has begun the reconciliation with the Palestinians with the hope that they will be mediators with the other Arab states. This makes it incumbent on us to boost and develop our programs to make the Lebanese people stronger in this sphere. He added: We will not accept any treaty before a withdrawal takes place. Resolution 425 does not force Lebanon to sign a peace treaty with Israel or to normalize relations with it. Lebanon cannot sign a treaty alone.

President al-Hirawi asked: What does Israel want from us in addition to preserving security? We say we are prepared to control security if Israel withdraws. After withdrawal, not a single shot will be fired. He said: President al-Asad and I have been in agreement from the beginning. We explained our stance on Resolution 425 a few days ago. However, there is no use. Rabin's government claims it has no designs on Lebanon. Before it, Shamir's government used to say the same thing. Israel complains and demands security. We are prepared to provide security. However, Lebanon will not sign a peace treaty alone.

President al-Hirawi described President al-Asad as wise and very faithful to all his friends. He said: If President al-Asad did not exist, nothing would have remained of Arab dignity. He works for Lebanon's complete and full independence.

President al-Hirawi rejected the solution of the Palestinian refugees issue at Lebanon's expense. He said if the solution to this issue comes at Lebanon's expense, we will ask the Palestinians to leave Lebanon. Let all the Arab states shoulder this responsibility. Lebanon is overpopulated with its own citizens. Lebanon is hosting its Palestinian brothers for humanitarian reasons. No Lebanese agrees to the settlement [of the Palestinians in Lebanon]. Let Yasir 'Arafat give them [Palestinian] citizenship and then they will leave Lebanon.

President al-Hirawi noted that the Constitution restricts the powers of the president but does not restrict the powers of the prime minister and the speaker of the Chamber of Deputies. He affirmed that he objects to the renewal of his term of office. He said the Chamber of Deputies is working like a beehive and I do not deny its achievements.

This report may contain copyrighted material. Copying and dissemination is prohibited without permission of the copyright owners.

President al-Hirawi affirmed that the abolition of sectarianism approved under the al-Ta'if accord has not seen the light yet. On the contrary, sectarianism is being entrenched more and more. He also affirmed that he did not become president to administer a crisis. He said the state had the right to end the rebellion [of General Michel 'Awn]. It was also its right to seek the help of the Syrian forces because this is mentioned in the al-Ta'if accord.

On the economic development plan, President al-Hirawi said: We cannot prosper without securing an infrastructure which needs funds. If the necessary funds are not provided, no one will pay attention to this country. We passed a period without war, during which we offset the deficit from the telephone and customs fees. There are huge projects which bring big returns. They have priority over other projects. We must quickly reform the school system because the cost of developing private schools will be at the expense of government schools. He said the idea of flea markets is part of the solution to put an end to high prices, monopoly, and the social crisis. He noted that there is no need to increase taxes if fair collection is secured from all the people.

Al-Hirawi, Sources Cited on Clinton's 'Defeat'

NC1111121894 Tehran Voice of the Islamic Republic of Iran in Arabic 1100 GMT 11 Nov 94

[Report by Mohammad Beshkar in Beirut]

[FBIS Translated Text] Lebanese official circles are watching with interest the defeat of U.S. President Bill Clinton and the Democratic Party at the hands of the Republicans in the Congress election and how this may affect the American settlement process in the region, especially on the Syrian and Lebanese negotiating tracks. In a statement published in Beirut today, Lebanese President Ilyas al-Hirawi, out of his belief that U.S. policy does not change with the change of administrations, ruled out any impact of the American election results on the regional scene, particularly on the issue of settlement. No changes are expected on this matter, he said.

Informed Lebanese sources said today that the U.S. President may now grow more willing to achieve swift progress in the negotiations between Lebanon and Syria on one side and the Zionist enemy on the other. Such progress, the sources said, may be reflected in his favor in the upcoming presidential elections in the summer of next year [as heard]. The sources stressed that in the next few months Clinton will throw all his weight behind advancing the Syrian and Lebanese tracks and consequently score a major achievement in the Middle East by ending the Arab-Zionist conflict.

Observers believe that Lebanon may become the scene of great pressure by the Americans and the Zionist enemy to force the Lebanese Government to accept the Zionist conditions for a settlement; namely, stopping resistance against the occupation in the south, incorporating the militias collaborating with the occupation into the Lebanese Army, and signing a full peace treaty. The observers point out that the American pressure may take a military direction, through Israel, especially since the Lebanese Government has rejected these conditions and has insisted on implementing Security Council Resolution No. 425, which calls for the Zionist enemy's unconditional withdrawal, a resolution being ignored by the Clinton administration and being rejected by the Rabin government.

Lahd Attends Ceremony Held for Gen Mordekhay

NC1411113994 Kafr Killa Voice of the South in Arabic 0800 GMT 14 Nov 94

[FBIS Translated Text] A farewell ceremony for General Yitzhaq Mordekhay, commander of the Israeli Army for the northern region, was held in the eastern sector of the border strip at 1530 yesterday. The ceremony was attended by General Antoine Lahd, commander of the South Lebanese Army [SLA]; General (Dior 'Anbar), commander of the liaison office; Colonel Shlomo Hassoun, commander of the civilian affairs department; notables from the area, and delegations from Jazzin.

General Lahd delivered a speech in which he praised the efforts of General Mordekhay, who served as commander of the northern region for three years and eight months. General Lahd said that over the past two years terrorist operations against the border strip has increased but we have stood fast. Our steadfastness has not been a coincidence because steadfastness has prerequisites. General Mordekhay takes credit for creating these prerequisites because he has offered support and assistance to the SLA, such as equipment, arms, ammunition, and training. He worked day and night whenever any incident occurred. He also offered civilian aid and helped our area in the fields of housing, health, electricity, and water. We will not forget his good deeds.

Referring to the rumors circulated against the SLA, General Lahd said: Regardless of the rumors that you have heard that the entity called the SLA will disappear overnight, I affirm to you that the SLA is in its best shape ever. You all know the truth, which completely contradicts these rumors.

On his behalf and on behalf of the inhabitants of the border strip, General Lahd expressed thanks to General Mordekhay, wishing him success in the new missions that he will undertake.

For his part, General Mordekhay said: I have had the honor to be among you to work together for the welfare of this area and to defend it. I have lived with you the atmosphere of war and peace. My primary aim has been to protect the area, develop it toward peace, and make it a bridge linking Israel with Lebanon. I know this area very well. Its inhabitants coexist despite their various religious affiliations. They work together to safeguard

This report may contain copyrighted material. Copying and dissemination is prohibited without permission of the copyright owners.

their freedom, dignity, and land. They have a strong fighting army and have the security services which are carrying their work very well. They also have a civilian affairs department which is working hard to secure all services to them.

General Mordekhay said: All our work has been for the sake of the future of this area. I affirm that the bridge of brotherhood which we have built will remain in place. The relations of amity, blood, and common destiny will continue among us. He promised that he will continue to give aid to the area through the new post which he will take. He added: As I leave this region, I am sure a day will come when it will enjoy the awaited peace.

Commending General Lahd's efforts, General Mordekhay said: General Lahd is a Lebanese commander and leader who has done his best for his country's and people's interests. He has led this area under difficult and harsh conditions.

In a conversation with journalists after the ceremony and in response to a question by our reporter on his view of the ongoing war between the Israeli army and the SLA on the one hand and the terrorists on the other, General Mordekhay said: Hizballah will know it is knocking its head against a wall of rock. It has no alternative but to lay down its arms and stop its terrorist activity.

Answering another question on his new post and whether he will take a diplomatic post in Jordan, General Mordekhay: I have not given an answer regarding the posts proposed to me. When I decide, I will tell you.

Mordekhay will be succeeded by General ('Amiram Ligin), commander of the parachute corps, as commander of the Israeli army for the northern region.

Fatah Member Killed Outside Home in 'Ayn al-Hulwah

NC1111091094 Beirut Radio Lebanon in Arabic 0900 GMT 11 Nov 94

[FBIS Translated Text] REUTER has cited a security source as saying that an unknown gunman this morning shot dead a Fatah member called Sami Sharaf while the latter was leaving his home at the entrance to 'Ayn al-Hulwah camp in Sidon.

Hizballah Leader Hails Bombing, Praises Student

NC1111175294 Paris AFP in English 1700 GMT 11 Nov 94

[FBIS Transcribed Text] Beirut, Nov 11 (AFP)—The leader of the Iranian-backed Hizballah, Shaykh Hasan Nasrallah, hailed a suicide bomber who killed three Israeli soldiers and wounded a dozen other people on the Gaza Strip Friday [11 November].

"I bring you good news," Shaykh Nasrallah said, referring to the bombing during a speech in the southern suburbs of Beirut.

"A young student of the martyr Hani 'Abid rode his bicycle into an Israeli convoy with explosives strapped to his chest and stomach," he said.

In Gaza City, four armed guerrillas claimed responsibility for the blast at a memorial ceremony for Hani 'Abid, a senior Islamic Jihad figure who died in a November 2 car bomb which all Palestinian factions blamed on Israel.

Hizballah, which is violently opposed to the peace process, spearheads attacks on Israeli troops and their proxy militia, the South Lebanon Army (SLA), in and around Israel's "security zone" in southern Lebanon.

Hizballah Radio Assails Reopening of Marines Case

NC1211083494 Ba'labakk Voice of the Oppressed in Arabic GMT 0650 12 Nov 94

["Spotlights on Events" program]

[FBIS Translated Excerpt] [passage omitted] The Lebanese people have rejected every attempt at rapprochement with the Zionist enemy and the United States, even if it cost them blood and sacrifices. They demonstrated this rejection on several occasions and in many ways, but the regime has been ambivalent in its ties with the United States. [passage omitted]

Yesterday something emerged that proved that old habits die hard and that there are some people who have always supported the United States and have never tried to be Israel's enemy.

Opening the files of two martyrdom operations that targeted American and French colonialists in Beirut in 1983 and prosecuting and punishing those who were behind the operations are evidence that there some people who want to return Lebanon to the traditional Arab arena which is dominated by a clash between the stands of states and people, especially on relations with the United States and Israel.

If this is the intention, those who are pushing in this direction ought to beware, because the outcome will not be what they expect.

Hizballah Leader on Warrants

NC1211083594 Beirut Voice of Lebanon in Arabic 0615 GMT 12 Nov 94

[FBIS Translated Text] Hizballah Party Secretary General Hasan Nasrallah has described the issuance of judicial warrants to apprehend those who bombed the U.S. Marines and French forces centers in 1983 as ridiculous.

Speaking at a rally held in the Southern Suburb yesterday, he said: If some people mean to find a balance on the basis of the open judicial cases, then let them base the

This report may contain copyrighted material. Copying and dissemination is prohibited without permission of the copyright owners.

balance on persons other than the honorable mujahidin and those who resisted the occupation armies.

More Reject Reopening of Case

NC1311090294 Ba'labakk Voice of the Oppressed in Arabic 0630 GMT 13 Nov 94

[FBIS Translated Text] Following the decision to open the files on operations against Marine and French centers [in 1983] and to pursue the perpetrators, a meeting of [word indistinct] public figures and party, patriotic, nationalist, and Islamic leaders was held in Ba'labakk [word indistinct]. The delegates issued a statement in which they [words indistinct] the decision a major offense to the blood of martyrs and heroes who defended the homeland and expelled the invaders from the land [words indistinct].

The statement said that Lebanon [words indistinct] to call for bringing to trial those who shelled Lebanese villages and [words indistinct] with [words indistinct] guns and take legal action against them in international courts as war criminals. The statement described this act as part of the normalization process [words indistinct], an installment toward the payment that needs to be made as we stand at the threshold of the alleged peace.

Engineer 'Asim Qansuh, a member of the National Command of the Arab Socialist Ba'th Party, said the voices that call for trying those who resist the Zionist occupation and its masters are Agent voices [word indistinct] and agents for Zionists.

In a statement to our radio, he said the struggle against the Zionist enemy [word indistinct] on every Arab and Islamic level. [words indistinct] Qansuh pointed out that resistance is a primary requisite of [words indistinct], because it is a duty and an honor [words indistinct]. He stressed that he will fight to the last drop of his blood [words indistinct].

Amal Claims Attack on SLA Position

NC1011135194 Beirut Voice of Lebanon in Arabic 1215 GMT 10 Nov 94

[FBIS Translated Text] An 85-year-old civilian named Ibrahim 'Abbas was killed early this morning by the Israeli shelling of the village of Sribbin, east of Tyre. A spokesman for the UN Interim Force in Lebanon has confirmed the death of 'Abbas, whose home was hit by four shells. Our security correspondent has pointed out that a fire broke out in home of 'Abbas, who suffocated as a result. The shelling reached the villages of Haddathah and Haris as well.

The Amal Movement has announced that it attacked the Rshaf position of the Lahd [South Lebanese Army, SLA] troops with automatic and antitank weapons early this morning. Amal also attacked a Lahd patrol that arrived at the position to reinforce it. The statement added that those manning the position had been either killed or wounded.

Islamic Resistance Said Responsibile for SLA Deaths

NC1111085594 Ba'labakk Voice of the Oppressed in Arabic 0630 GMT 11 Nov 94

[FBIS Translated Text] A group of men from the Islamic Resistance detonated an explosive device yesterday evening under a car belonging to two security officials from the agent Lahdist forces [word indistinct]. The explosion totally destroyed the vehicle.

The artillery unit of the Islamic Resistance pounded the enemy positions in Taw'amat Niha and Kafr Huna scoring direct hits.

Security sources in the south said that a man from the Lahdist forces called Rashid Abu-Zayd was killed and another was injured in an attack announced by the Islamic Resistance. A source from the militias also admitted that an explosive device went off when a car passed by with two people inside it. The explosion took place in Kafr Huna along the road to the central sector. The source noted that two positions close to the agent militias positions came under artillery shelling [words indistinct].

The Islamic Resistance issued a statement in which it said that this operation is a confirmation of its determination to hunt the traitorous Lahdist agents. It promised that it will continue along this path until it achieves victory and eliminates the occupation.

[Kafr Killa Voice of the South in Arabic at 0800 GMT on 11 November carries the following related report: "Yesterday afternoon, a soldier from the South Lebanese Army was martyred and a comrade of his was injured when an explosive device went off. The device was set by saboteurs on the main road between Kafr Huna and Jazzin and went off when the car they were in passed on the road. The saboteurs combined the explosion with artillery shelling, which hit Kafr Huna from their positions in Iqlim al-Tuffah and western al-Biqa'."]

Nasrallah Threatens SLA With 'Death Sentence'

NC1111175794 Cairo MENA in Arabic 1720 GMT 11 Nov 94

[FBIS Translated Text] Beirut, 11 Nov (MENA)—Hizballah Secretary General Shaykh Hasan Nasrallah has warned the members of the South Lebanese Army [SLA] militia loyal to Israel that the death sentence will be carried out against them if they do not leave the occupied region in south Lebanon for anywhere abroad, repent, or surrender.

In a speech to a celebration held to commemorate "Martyr's Day," Nasrallah said that the Resistance men will chase the SLA militia everywhere. He said that Israel will not protect them if it withdraws, because it always leaves its Agents to face their fate.

This report may contain copyrighted material. Copying and dissemination is prohibited without permission of the copyright owners.

In his speech, Nasrallah said his party and both Hamas [Islamic Resistance Movement] and the Islamic Jihad movements have agreed to continue their struggle against and resistance of Israel.

Three SLA Members Wounded; Amal Claims Attack

NC1111181094 Beirut Voice of Lebanon in Arabic 1715 GMT 11 Nov 94

[FBIS Translated Text] Security sources in Marj 'Uyun have said that three of Lahd's troops [South Lebanese Army, SLA] were wounded today when their position in Sujud came under mortar fire. The sources said that the SLA and Israeli artillery responded by bombarding the areas north of Sujud, where the Resistance men are deployed.

The Amal Movement earlier issued a statement saying that a group of Lebanese Resistance Battalions, Amal, at 1500 today detonated an explosive charge under a foot patrol of the Israeli and Lahd troops on the Kafr Falus-'Ayn al-Mir road. The explosion wounded two patrol members, the statement said.

The township of 'Ayn al-Zahrani, particularly the area of al-Marj, came under 155-mm artillery bombardment this afternoon. First Army Sergeant Khidr Hamad al-Tufayli and his sister Wafa' Hamad al-Tufayli, 30, were wounded.

The Israelis are directing machine-gun fire at the 'Ali al-Tahir hills, the eastern quarters of Kafr Tibnit, and the areas surrounding al-Nabatiyah al-Fawqa. Jabal al-Rafi' in Iqlim al-Tuffah came under concentrated 120-mm artillery bombardment from the Israeli positions in al-Zaffatah. This was accompanied by 12.7-mm caliber machine-gun fire against al-Wadi al-Akhdar and the Nab' al-Tasah River basin.

SLA Units Clash With 'Resistance,' Advance North

NC1311111094 (Clandestine) Radio Free Lebanon in Arabic 0945 GMT 13 Nov 94

[FBIS Translated Text] Voice of the South, the South Lebanese Army [SLA] radio, has reported that an SLA patrol and Resistance elements clashed on the al-Rihan road. The clash involved artillery shelling but no further details were given.

Our correspondent in the south reported that at about 0830 today an SLA force crossed the contact line in the Shwayya region and advanced toward the western heights of Mount Hermon and the hills around the al-Wastani mountain. The force is engaged in a large-scale raking operation involving heavy machine-gun fire.

Earlier the Israeli army reinforced its positions in Zummarayya and Kawkaba with eight armored vehicles. An Israeli drone also overflew the region. Our correspondent in the south reported that the outer areas of Majdal Zun and the surrounding valleys came under sporadic 120-mm artillery shelling in the morning from the Israeli position in Yarin. The Al-Muhaybib position shelled the periphery of Sribbin and Haris in the central sector, while the position of Tallusah raked the environs of al-Muhaybib and Wadi al-Saluqi using medium-caliber machine guns. At 0100 Israeli artillery on the Kawkaba hill shelled the western al-Biqa' heights, concentrating on the area of 'Ayn al-Tinah, Maydun, and Jabal Abu Rashid.

'Terrorist' Group Discovered, Shelled

NC1211084294 Kafr Killa Voice of the South in Arabic 0800 GMT 12 Nov 94

[FBIS Translated Text] A South Lebanese Army unit discovered this morning a terrorist group attempting to infiltrate the border area near al-Rayhan. Artillery and tanks shelled the terrorist group but the extent of casualties among the terrorists is not known yet.

IAF Strafes 'Terrorist' Targets in South

TA1311201094 Jerusalem Qol Yisra'el in Hebrew 2000 GMT 13 Nov 94

[FBIS Translated Text] Israel Air Force [IAF] attacked terrorist targets in south Lebanon this evening. All the planes returned safely to base. Our army affairs correspondent Karmela Menashe reports that the planes attacked targets which served as bases for Hizballah activity in the Jabal al-Rafi' area of south Lebanon. The pilots reported accurate hits against their targets.

Palestinian Islamic Jihad Envoy Warns More Attacks

NC1311081394 Ba'labakk Voice of the Oppressed in Arabic 0630 GMT 13 Nov 94

[FBIS Translated Text] (Abu Salih), the representative of the Palestinian Islamic Jihad in Lebanon, has said he holds the self-rule authorities, led by Yasir 'Arafat, responsible for any developments resulting from the pursuit of Islamic Jihad members and leaders. [words indistinct]. In a statement to our radio, (Abu Salih) called on the self-rule authorities to stop pursuing the mujahidin and to abandon this dirty job given to them by Israel. He said [words indistinct] by the Zionist occupation forces and 'Arafat's police, the mujahidin will continue [words indistinct] other operations against the enemy.

This report may contain copyrighted material. Copying and dissemination is prohibited without permission of the copyright owners.

Radio Reports Islamic Jihad Operation, Reactions

JN1111213994 Damascus Syrian Arab Republic Radio Network in Arabic 1915 GMT 11 Nov 94

[FBIS Translated Text] Occupied Palestine—Three Israeli soldiers were killed and 10 others were wounded in an explosion of a booby-trapped motorcycle that occurred in the Netzarim settlement south of Gaza City today. Israeli police sources described the incident as a suicide operation. A police spokesman said that the motorcyclist set off the explosive charge he was carrying in front of an Army position by ramming into a car near the position. Israeli radio said that among the wounded were four Israeli soldiers, two of them in critical condition. AFP, in a report from the occupied territories, said that the youth who carried out the operation was 17-years old and that he had previously worked with Hani al-'Abid, a leader of the Islamic Jihad, who was assassinated in a car blast last week. The news agency said that helicopters and ambulances rushed to the scene of the incident to evacuate the injured and that Palestinian policemen headed for the scene of the operation, but were denied entry by the Israeli Army, which completely cordoned off the area.

The Islamic Jihad Movement in Palestine claimed responsibility for the operation and added in a statement that the operation was carried out in retaliation for the blood of martyr Hani al-'Abid. The statement asserted that the Islamic Jihad Movement will continue its operations against the Israeli occupation and warned the authority of the limited self-rule against hurting the members of the movement or cooperating with the occupation authorities in chasing its strugglers. Four Palestinian citizens were also wounded, one of them seriously, when Israeli soldiers opened fire on a car that was passing near the scene following the suicide operation. Doctors from Gaza said that an officer of the limited self-rule police was also wounded in the head by the Israeli soldiers.

Israeli Chief of Staff Ehud Baraq admitted that three Israeli soldiers were killed in the suicide attack carried out by a Palestinian in the Gaza Strip today. Baraq, who rushed to the scene, told Israeli radio that four other soldiers were wounded, two of them seriously. Commenting on the explosion, the Israeli chief of staff held the limited self-rule authority responsible, pointing out that Israel views very seriously the failure of the Palestinian police to ban such actions. At a news conference held at the Netzarim junction, Ehud Baraq said an Israeli-Palestinian meeting would be held this evening to study ways to prevent the recurrence of such actions. He added that such actions cannot be completely stopped but that the Israeli Army would exert its utmost efforts to reduce them in cooperation with the Palestinian police.

For his part, Eli Dayan, head of the government coalition and Knesset member, said that the Israeli Army will be obliged to enter the Gaza Strip and strike at opponent cells operating there only if the Army has no other choice. In this regard, Binyamin Netanyahu, head of the Israeli Likud Party, urged Prime Minister Yitzhaq Rabin to stop negotiations with the Palestinians and to demand that 'Arafat, head of the limited self-rule authority in Gaza, impose his control and contain resistance actions. Netanyahu said that a process producing, in the final analysis, terrorist pockets should not continue. Binyamin Ben-Eli'ezer, Israeli minister of construction and housing, said that Israel does not expect Yasir 'Arafat to impose his control on the self-rule areas. He urged 'Arafat to change his tactics toward Hamas and voiced his hope that 'Arafat will come to his senses and carry out the duties required of him.

In the same context, Uri Ariel, head of the Jewish Settlements Council in the occupied West Bank and Gaza Strip, said that any decision to withdraw the Israeli Army forces from the West Bank and Gaza Strip would be irresponsible. He added that the Israeli Government should not divide powers related to guaranteeing the security of the Israeli settlers and called for suspending current negotiations with the PLO. Nessim Zvili, secretary of the Labor party, called for fighting and liquidating terrorism. (Sha'oni Halom), member of the Knesset for the opposition Mafdal Party, urged Yitzhaq Rabin to send a special force from the Israeli Army to the Gaza Strip to arrest the perpetrators and foil their designs. Halom said the explosion incident proves that the siege imposed on the Gaza Strip to ensure the Israelis' safety has not been successful. ('Uzi Landam), member of the Likud Party, said that the Israelis are paying a price as a result of what he called a silly and reckless policy pursued by the Yitzhaq Rabin-led Israeli Government. Rafa'el Eytan, head of the opposition Tzomet Movement, said that the Palestinians prove time and again that they are seeking to kill the Israelis, regardless of the lives of the Palestinians.

Yasir 'Arafat, head of the limited self-rule authority in Gaza, hastened to condemn the operation and threatened to take deterrent measures. He also summoned his security aides to a meeting today and ordered an investigation of the explosion. 'Arafat asserted that he would take severe measures if the operation was coordinated and carried out from the Gaza Strip. 'Arafat adviser Khalid Salam said that the head of the limited self-rule authority issued urgent orders to his security forces to collect all possible information. He added that another team is continuing contacts with the Israeli side to learn about the details of the operations outside the authorities of the Palestinian police.

Paper: Explosions Show Accords 'Have No Future'

JN1211073294 Damascus Syrian Arab Republic Radio Network in Arabic 0550 GMT 12 Nov 94

[From the press review]

[FBIS Translated Text] Under the headline "Removing Occupation First," TISHRIN says: The statements of

This report may contain copyrighted material. Copying and dissemination is prohibited without permission of the copyright owners.

Israeli officials about peace are still deliberately vague. These statements have to date not suggested full withdrawal from the Golan and a return to the 4 June 1967 borders.

TISHRIN adds: Syria, on the other hand, was very clear when President Hafiz al-Asad said, at his joint news conference with U.S. President Bill Clinton, that Syria is prepared to meet the objective requirements of peace.

TISHRIN says that were it not for the maneuvering policy adopted by Israel and its conclusion of fragile agreements, peace would now have been a reality in the Middle East. Israel thinks that Syria could be dragged into such agreements through maneuvering and taking on the Arab parties one at a time. However, its attempts, which have succeeded with the PLO and Jordan, will not succeed with Syria. These attempts will not work now or in the future.

TISHRIN says that the successive explosions in the occupied Arab territories confirm that the Israeli agreements with this or that party through pressure and coercion have no future, in view of the wide gap between the substance of these agreements and the Arabs' aspirations for a just, comprehensive, true peace that ensures their dignity, territory, and rights.

TISHRIN concludes: Firm peace is that of peoples, which requires returning rights and removing occupation once and for all. Talk about peace with Syria and Lebanon without full withdrawal from the Golan and southern Lebanon is a waste of time and is a limited, rejected initiative.

Jordanian-Israeli Treaty Ratification Reported

JN1011200794 Damascus Syrian Arab Television Network in Arabic 1830 GMT 10 Nov 94

[FBIS Translated Text] King Husayn of Jordan has made his first public visit to Israel, during which he met with Israeli Prime Minister Yitzhaq Rabin and exchanged with him the instruments of the ratification of the Jordanian-Israeli peace treaty.

The Jordanian monarch, accompanied by Crown Prince Hasan, Prime Minister 'Abd-al-Salam al-Majali, the information minister, and Jordanian Army officers, arrived in Bet Gavri'el on the shores of Lake Tiberias.

At a ceremony for exchanging the instruments of the ratification of the treaty, King Husayn delivered a speech, expressing his happiness over this visit, and also over the exchange of the instruments of the ratification of the Jordanian-Israeli peace treaty with Israeli Prime Minister Yitzhaq Rabin. In the brief speech he delivered after the exchange of these instruments, King Husayn said: Today, we see the purpose we have sought to achieve all along. In his speech, King Husayn voiced his thanks to Yitzhaq Rabin as well as Israeli and Jordanian officials.

For his part, Rabin delivered a speech, which he began by noting the presence of Knesset members belonging to both the Labor Party and the Likud at the ceremony site, saying: Your Majesty, this reflects the unique relationship we have with you. We have dreamt of signing this agreement with you. This dream has materialized. We are beginning efforts to implement the agreement we have signed in order to make the treaty a vital element, and in order to bring about a completely different relationship between Jordan and Israel.

Addressing King Husayn, Rabin said: The peace treaty with you was ratified even before we signed it, noting the Israeli consensus behind this treaty.

After King Husayn and Rabin had exchanged the instruments of the ratification of the peace treaty, King Husayn told REUTER that he has visited several times for talks with Israeli officials. Nonetheless, the talks remained a secret to avert a negative Arab reaction.

For Jordan, the ceremony for exchanging the instruments of the ratification of the treaty was attended by Crown Prince Hasan of Jordan, Prime Minister 'Abd-al-Salam al-Majali, Royal Court Chief al-Sharif Zayd Bin-Shakir, Political Adviser to King Husayn Marwan al-Qasim, and Information Minister Jawad al-'Anani. On the Israeli side, the ceremony was attended by Israeli Foreign Minister Shim'on Peres, senior Israeli officials, and several Knesset members, including David Levi, Likud member and former Israeli foreign minister.

King Husayn and Rabin also held a meeting in Tiberias in the presence of the Jordanian crown prince. The meeting was also attended by senior officials on both sides. The talks addressed the means to implement the Jordanian-Israeli treaty, and other issues, such as water resources, dams, and cooperation in the areas of electrical and telephone linkage, and joint regional projects.

King Husayn of Jordan returned to Amman this evening.

Likud leader Binyamin Netanyahu this morning held a telephone conversation with Crown Prince Hasan of Jordan, during which he welcomed King Husayn's visit to Israel on the occasion of inaugurating the northern border crossing between the two sides.

Today, the northern al-Shaykh Husayn border crossing between Jordan and Israel was inaugurated. This is the second border crossing to be opened between the two sides. The first crossing was opened in the Wadi al-'Arabah area in the south in August. The Jordanian side to the inauguration ceremony was represented by Transportation Minister Samir Qa'war, whereas the Israeli side to the ceremony was represented by Israeli Minister of Transportation Yisra'el Qeysar. The ceremony was attended by several Jordanian and Israeli ministers.

Israeli Transportation Minister Yisra'el Qeysar announced that peace with Jordan will be warm, and that economic, cultural, and touristic relations will be established between the two sides.

This report may contain copyrighted material. Copying and dissemination is prohibited without permission of the copyright owners.

In a speech on the occasion of inaugurating the al-Shaykh Husayn Bridge, which is built over the River Jordan, the Israeli minister addressed the prospects of future cooperation between Jordan and Israel in the area of transportation, saying: Israeli ports will be open to Jordanian goods. It will be possible to establish a railroad linking the Dead Sea with both al-'Aqabah and Elat, as well as a network of roads.

For his part, Samir Qa'war reiterated that the speed with which the new border crossing, which is meant to facilitate the movement of persons and commodities between the two sides, has been opened reflects Jordan's extremely serious commitment to peace with Israel.

Once the speeches were delivered, 13 Israeli light civilian planes flew over the ceremony site, flying into Jordanian airspace in a token move designed to confirm the elimination of airspace limitations, just as land border restrictions have been eliminated.

Later, the six ministers, three from each side, cut the ribbon on both sides of the bridge. The commander of the 12th Royal Division exchanged military salutes and gifts with the Israeli Central Region commander.

In a related development, official Palestinian sources have said that Yasir 'Arafat, chairman of the Palestinian limited self-rule authority, telephoned King Husayn of Jordan last night, and briefed him on the outcome of the talks he held with Israeli Prime Minister Yitzhaq Rabin near the Erez checkpoint on Tuesday [8 November]. The sources indicated that 'Arafat might visit Jordan soon for talks with King Husayn.

Al-Asad Notes Peace 'Struggle' in Speech

JN1211070194 Damascus Syrian Arab Republic Radio Network in Arabic 0515 GMT 12 Nov 94

[FBIS Translated Text] President Hafiz al-Asad has addressed a message of greetings and appreciation to the working class on the occasion of its holding a week of production contests, which was concluded by a voluntary workday to commemorate the 24th anniversary of the blessed Corrective Movement.

The following is the text of the message:

My brothers and sons in the working class, I extend to you my warm greetings at the conclusion of the week of production contests, which you concluded with a voluntary workday. I also bless the fine efforts you have made during this week. You were prompted by a national sense of responsibility to enhance the national economy, in addition to your sure desire to promote the wellbeing of the homeland in all fields.

Every single brick you add to this edifice and every effort you make toward this end will contribute to the homeland's prosperity and the happiness of the sons of the homeland by making available the requirements of a decent life for them. You have embraced work as a great value and you have translated this belief into reality by upholding the slogan of self-reliance as a way to make the homeland impregnable. You have also made the implementation of this slogan a tradition in which you take pride before other nations.

Development plans in Syria bear fruit as a result of your efforts, as well as the efforts made by all dedicated participants in the process of building the homeland. We have seen and felt the results of these efforts all over Syria. This has materialized in increasing and improving industrial and agricultural production and further tapping of natural resources. Thus, our march in Syria is one of progress and development. This march has given our country a distinguished status among other nations and made the world appreciate and respect Syria's word. This has also consolidated our ability to seek to achieve our noble objectives, inspired by the principles of our party, the Arab Socialist Ba'th Party. We hope the future will be bright for us and for generations to come.

We are now struggling for a just and comprehensive peace in our region in the same capability with which we have faced aggression against our Arab nation and the rights of our nation over the past years. In this struggle, we are not oblivious to the challenges facing us now and possibly in the future. This requires that all of us develop more strength so as to overcome the difficulties in our path and achieve a just and comprehensive peace that liberates territory from occupation and restores rights.

Your commemoration of the Corrective Movement's anniversary by holding production contests and national voluntary work is evidence of your sound approach and noble aims. Let us continue the march of productive work in all walks of life to achieve our noble objectives. Peace be upon you.

This report may contain copyrighted material. Copying and dissemination is prohibited without permission of the copyright owners.

Afghanistan

Government Positions Destroyed by Artillery Fire

LD1011152494 (Clandestine) Radio Message of Freedom in Pashto to Afghanistan 0730 GMT 10 Nov 94

[FBIS Translated Text] Several seditious trenches of the Moscow-Paris mercenary coalition forces were destroyed by artillery fire by the courageous forces of the High Coordination Council.

A responsible military source of the High Coordination Council reported to the correspondent of the Radio Message of Freedom that as a result of crushing blows inflicted by the forces of the High Coordination Council, several important positions and a number of heavy weapons of the mercenary coalition forces were completely destroyed east of Kabul; and a number of their armed men were either killed or injured. The forces of the mercenary coalition have been pushed back from the front lines.

According to another report, the aircraft of the Moscow-Paris mercenary coalition forces, after this shameful defeat, mercilessly bombarded Shena, Bagrami, and the areas around these two places. Several innocent local people were either martyred or injured, and several houses were also destroyed.

In order to disguise their continuous defeats and to enhance the morale of their men, the aircraft of the mercenary coalition forces have bombarded areas east of Kabul [words indistinct]. As a result of this action losses of life and material were inflicted on our innocent compatriots. This bombardment has aroused the people's hatred and repulsion.

Hekmatyar's Attack East of Kabul Repulsed

LD1311174694 Kabul Radio Afghanistan Network in Dari 1600 GMT 13 Nov 94

[FBIS Translated Text] An extensive attack by the Golboddin-Dostam militia suffered defeat east of Kabul. According to a report by an Afghan security source, the savage Golboddin-Dostam militia mounted an unsuccessful offensive this morning east of Kabul. Their offensive was aborted in the first few hours, and after suffering heavy blows they were forced to flee. As a result of the attack, many of the militia were killed and a large number was captured. The dead bodies of the militia were left in the battle area, and Golboddin's men were not able to take away the corpses of their dead men. There are two foreigners among the dead bodies. The prisoners, who also include two foreigners, were transferred. This shows the connection of Golboddin with foreigners. The details of this and other recent attacks by Golboddin, which have been launched on the instructions of aliens' intelligence agencies in opposition to the UN peace process, will be communicated to the compatriots later.

UN Sources: Groups Agree on Transitional Setup

BK1111142794 Islamabad PTV Television Network in English 1300 GMT 11 Nov 94

[FBIS Transcribed Text] Afghan groups have generally agreed on the inclusion of independent Afghan leaders in the transitional setup in Afghanistan. This was disclosed by UN sources in Islamabad today. These groups have agreed in principle on the inclusion of independent personalities in the interim setup of Afghanistan proposed by the United Nations special mission led by Ambassador Mahmoud Mestiri. The UN special mission proposed a peace plan for war-torn Afghanistan that envisages formation of a commission to implement and monitor cease-fire between various factions, formation of a transitional government, raising of security force for Kabul, and convening of traditional Afghan Grand Assembly to decide about the future Government of Afghanistan.

Afghan President Borhanoddin Rabbani, accepting UN peace plan, however, suggested that apart from equal representation of Afghan groups and expatriate Afghans, provincial representatives be also included in the proposed commission. Professor Rabbani's arch rival Prime Minister Golboddin Hekmatyar has also suggested some modifications in the UN peace plan.

More on UN Peace Plan

LD1211095794 Tehran IRNA in English 0619 GMT 12 Nov 94

[FBIS Transcribed Text] Islamabad, Nov 12, IRNA—Afghan groups have generally agreed on the inclusion of independent Afghan figures in the transitional set-up of their country, U.N. sources told IRNA here on Friday [11 November].

"They have agreed in principle on the inclusion of independent personalities," in the interim set-up of Afghanistan proposed by the U.N. special mission led by Ambassador Mehmud Mesteri, the sources said.

The sources added that modalities pertaining to the composition and structure of the interim set-up are yet to be sorted out.

The presence of independent Afghan figures in the proposed interim set-up would help decrease polarization as "they can mediate" between the warring factions, the sources said.

"It is a change," they said in response to a question, in the attitude of Afghan groups who earlier were averse to any role for their compatriots who had not contributed to their struggle against aggression of former Soviet Union.

"Quetta meeting was one of the reasons," that led to this change in the attitude of Afghan factions.

This report may contain copyrighted material. Copying and dissemination is prohibited without permission of the copyright owners.

Mesteri have had marathon discussions with a group of prominent Afghan figures in Quetta in September to evolve a formula for ending the on-going conflict in war-weary Afghanistan.

U.N. special mission proposed a peace plan for war-torn Afghanistan that envisages formation of a commission to implement and monitor ceasefire between warring factions, formation of a transitional government, raising of security force for Kabul and convening of traditional Afghan Grand Assembly to decide about the future government of the country.

Afghan President Borhanoddin Rabbani accepting the U.N. peace plan, however, sugested that apart from equal representation of Afghan groups and expatriate Afghans, provincial representatives be also included in the proposed commission.

Prime Minister Golboddin Hekmatyar has yet to give formal response to the U.N. peace plan.

Hekmatyar had initially suggested some modifications in the U.N. peace plan and also had made some counter-proposals.

Rabbani Gives Speech on Agricultural Problems

LD1011210994 Kabul Radio Afghanistan Network in Pashto 1530 GMT 10 Nov 94

[Message by Professor Borhanoddin Rabbani, president of the Islamic State of Afghanistan, at a meeting in the Ministry of Agriculture marking International Food Day, on 10 November—recorded; read by Mohammad Sediq Sediqi, representative of the Presidency's Press Office; Sediqi speaks in Dari]

[FBIS Translated Excerpt] In the name of God, the merciful, the compassionate. [passage omitted]

In our country the issue of the supply of foodstuffs to the people is at the top of the Islamic State's program of action. Unfortunately the traditional method of sowing and working the land, and the lack of regular networks of irrigation engineering systems, have caused the level of agricultural and farming output—being the major source of food supply—to remain lower than the level of our people's needs.

Obviously, the fighting and the invasion by aggressive colonial forces have brought about fresh and extra difficulties and shortcomings. The war has caused damage to 80 percent of the agricultural means and equipment and totally destroyed them. The irrigation networks, streams, canals and [word indistinct] are partially destroyed. [words indistinct] as a result, the level of agricultural, orchard and farming output which are the main source of supply of food to the people, has been seriously reduced.

Dear compatriots, After the installation of the Islamic State it was hoped that all forces would work for the country's reconstruction, renovation of networks and irrigation systems, broadening of agricultural land and other areas of [word indistinct]. But those who see their interest in the destruction of Afghanistan and find their peace in the torture of our people, once again started armed confrontations and bloody clashes and embarked on launching rockets on the residential areas of our defenseless people. The forces and available means that should have been used to supply our compatriots with their needs and requirements, became the cause of pains and difficulties for the people.

To reduce and alleviate the people's pains and problems and to prepare the ground for the people to be able to live in security and far away from threats and worry, the Islamic State used every necessary effort and possible endeavors. The state is ready for every cooperation and even devotion and sacrifice for the prosperity and comfort of our compatriots.

The human society, in general, works without any discrimination of race, color, language, religion, and place of birth, for the increase of food supply needed by the people and celebrates one day as International Food Day. Work is also under way to coordinate the international society's effort in the task of supplying all humanity with sufficient foodstuffs.

Regrettably, in our country, one must say, there are at the very moment individuals and groups who are preventing the supply of food to people in an attempt to attain their political objectives. They close the supply [word indistinct] of roads, and feel happy and delighted to maintain the economic blockade of residential regions so that the children, women, men, and the civilian population suffer from lack of food

Thus they use food as a mean to achieve their illegitimate and inhumane objectives. This is an action far away from human dignity and is contrary to all standards of humanity and Islamic principles as well as against all international treaties.

The Islamic State of Afghanistan is resolutely determined to implement careful programs, besides work and efforts for a nationwide restoration and consolidation of peace and security, for the increase of agricultural output and foodstuffs which will be in conformity with the circumstances and conditions of the society. [passage omitted]

The Islamic State of Afghanistan acknowledges and appreciates the efforts by the international society including the international organizations and institutions which endeavor in the task of production, supply, and transport of foodstuffs. At this time when the winter is approaching and the selfish groups and alien's agents have closed the supply roads to Kabul and our people's need to foodstuffs is seriously felt, it is hoped that the international organizations and other organs [words indistinct] involved in the task of assisting and supplying the people of Afghanistan with foodstuffs can further increase and accelerate their cooperation and humanitarian assistance and thus find a solution to this difficulty of our people by supplying them with the needed foodstuffs. [passage omitted]

This report may contain copyrighted material. Copying and dissemination is prohibited without permission of the copyright owners.

Iran

Official: Bombing in Iraq 'Deterrent Measure'

LD1011164394 Tehran IRNA in English 1615 GMT 10 Nov 94

[FBIS Transcribed Text] Tehran, Nov. 10, IRNA—A security official said on Thursday that the accurate bombing of the bases of terrorists inside Iraq by the Iranian Air Force jet fighters Wednesday was a deterrent measure aimed at insuring security in western Iranian border areas.

In response to a question on what conditions made such surprise attacks necessary, the security official told IRNA "information reaching from the base of terrorists in Iraqi territory indicated that they were planning to carry out sabotage operations against urban installations, economic centers and border dwellers." For this reason, the official said, Iranian jet fighters targeted the joint command headquarters of the terrorists and carried out the operation well.

Asked about why the counterrevolutionary [as received] had embarked on harrassing even civilian people in urban and rural areas in recent months, the security official responded: "As you know, the pace of reconstruction is gaining momentum in war-stricken areas in western Iran. This process will have various results ranging from a boom in agriculture and road building to promotion of industries and literacy for the deprived masses.

"The point is that the counterrevolutionaries, quite alerted by the danger of such literacy and development projects, are doing their best to dissuade people from contributing to the development of their region." The security official also said that the terrorists were attempting to make the region insecure, dissuade people from reconstructing their regions and halt development of western parts of the country.

Asked to give some certain examples of harrassment acts perpetrated by the terrorists recently, the security official said: The terrorists recently planted bombs in Oshnaviyeh and Sardasht to frighten their residents, mined rural roads along Iran-Iraq border, opened fire on an outpost set up to preserve security of the region, and killed or taken [as received] captive a number of workers of industrial and agricultural complexes or road building projects.

Security forces recently caught several mercenaries of the terrorist grouplets carrying equipment usually used in sabotage activities such as time bombs, anti-personnel mines and various weapons, he said. "The arrest of those persons helped us locate the main headquarters where such terrorist acts had been designed and also find out their intention for carrying out sabotage activities inside Iran," the official said. Therefore, the security official added, Iranian jet fighters in a deterrent measure demolished the base Wednesday.

Asked about the effectiveness of the air raid, the official said suffice it to say that foreign mass media quoting spokesmen of the terrorist groups termed the operation as extensive and heavy. The official expressed hope that with the establishment of tranquility in the region "we will witness the expansion of development and promotion of literacy in the region."

Editorial Discusses Attack on MKO Bases

NC1011190594 Tehran TEHRAN TIMES in English 7 Nov 94 p 2

[Editorial: "MKO Receives Befitting Response, Iraq Also Responsible"]

[FBIS Transcribed Text] In recent days, reports of mischievous activities of the hypocrites on the Iran-Iraqi border have again surfaced, climaxing early yesterday morning with an attack on their base inside Iraq by Iranian border guards

The Mojahedin-e Khalq Organization (MKO), or the "hypocrites," have been aptly called because of their nefarious activities directed against the Islamic Republic, both at home and abroad.

The hypocrites have again intensified their campaign of disinformation against Iran through clandestine radio broadcasts.

Their objective is to create chaos in the country and to divert the goals of this sacrifice-loving nation to their benefit.

They make the Iranian people seem so simple minded and forgetful of the gains they have so far achieved from their sacrifices of the past by thinking that their activities would be condoned.

The nation is in the midst of trying problems of which the people know that their Leader, Ayatollah Seyyed 'Ali Khamene'i, is not unmindful and President Akbar Hashemi-Rafsanjani is anxious to solve. This nation is certain that it will tide over these problems and never doubted its capacity to do so.

Since the establishment of the Islamic system in Iran under the leadership of the late Imam Khomeyni, the Founder of the Islamic Revolution, the self-sacrificing officials of this country have always remained at the service of the nation and never displayed arrogance in the face of public pressure.

The hypocrites should know by now that they will never gain a footing among devoted Iranians who will not put in the archives of their memories the martyrdom of top revolutionary figures which they engineered.

This nation will not forget the treason committed by these hypocrites when they encouraged the Iraqi enemy to rain missiles on the defenseless people while they enjoyed the shelter, financial and other assistance of the Baghdad regime.

This report may contain copyrighted material. Copying and dissemination is prohibited without permission of the copyright owners.

The events of yesterday are a most fitting answer to the anger of the Iranian nation against these hypocrites and we expect the security forces to be more vigilant and destroy each and every base from where even a single bullet may be directed towards Islamic Iran.

Once more we remind the Iraqi regime that good neighborly relations carry a price which it should be prepared to pay.

Enough of what has been said. We hope that the Iraqi regime will do itself the favor of putting an end to the sufferings of its nation by simply being a peaceful neighbor. We do not think it costs a lot. Any nuisance committed by these hypocrites will ultimately call for responsibility on the Iraqi regime, a response befitting a country that believes in Islam.

Clandestine Radio Views Regime's 'Helplessness'

NC1011184194 (Clandestine) Voice of Mojahed in Persian 1600 GMT 10 Nov 94

[FBIS Translated Text] Following a news conference by the Iranian Resistance in Paris, Dr. Saleh Rajavi, a representative of the National Resistance Council, spoke on the telephone with the Voice of Mojahed radio:

[Begin Rajavi recording] The regime is beleaguered and in dire straits regarding social and politico-economic problems. It is also suffering from international isolation and therefore embarked on these actions.

During this war, the Iranian regime has employed very dangerous weapons, weapons that result in a greater number of victims. Such weapons, which are usually used in the last stages of combat, when the user feels life-threatening danger, were used by the regime from the start. For example, countries that have nuclear weapons would only use them as a last resort when their very existence is threatened.

Since the regime used Scud-B missiles, which are nonconventional weapons of mass destruction and the most dangerous ones the regime has, this indicates that it was seriously feeling a threat to its existence. This threat has two roots, one was the explosive situation at home, which we see much evidence of, and the other, the unimaginable proliferation of the Resistance in the past few months. [end recording]

Continuing his interview, Dr. Saleh Rajavi explained that this action by the clerical regime is a sign of its helplessness before the Iranian Resistance and its daily increasing prestige, especially due to the extensive welcome by our compatriots at home and abroad for the elected president of the Resistance, Madam Maryam Rajavi.

Radio Reports Reactions to Iranian Air Attack

NC1211170394 (Clandestine) Voice of Iranian Kordestan in Persian 1630 GMT 11 Nov 94

[FBIS Translated Text] Following the bombing of our party's Political Bureau by the warplanes and bombers of the Islamic Republic of Iran, messages of sympathy and solidarity continue to come into the Political Bureau and representative delegations of Iranian and Kurdistani factions and parties continue to visit.

With regard to the bombing of our Political Bureau on 9 November 1373 [year beginning 21 March 1994] by the Islamic Republic's regime, a UN delegation inspected the site an hour after the bombing and viewed the damage.

This delegation revisited the site of the bombing at 1300 on 9 November. Another UN delegation also visited our Political Bureau on 10 November and inspected it for a few hours as part of an investigation.

On 9 November a delegation of the Independent Workers Party of Iraqi Kurdistan visited the Political Bureau of the Democratic Party of Kordestan [DPK] in Iran and condemned the clerical regime's conduct and anti-Kordish actions and the bombing of the Political Bureau and expressed their sympathy with our party.

After the bombing, a delegation of the Workers' Party of Kurdistan [PKK] from Turkey visited our Political Bureau on 10 November. This delegation discussed the clerical regime's action with our bureau's comrades, condemned the bombing, and conveyed the solidarity and sympathy of the PKK with the DPK.

On the morning of 10 November, a delegation of the Khabat-e Enqelabi [Revolutionary Struggle] organization visited our party's politburo and held talks with our comrades. The delegates vehemently denounced the bombing of the Political Bureau and expressed their organization's hatred and abhorrence of the inhuman policies and actions of the clerical regime. They announced their sympathy with the DPK.

On 10 November a delegation of the People's Revolutionary Union of Kurdistan [as heard] visited our party's politburo. In their meeting with their cocombatants, the delegates castigated the conduct of the clerical regime and the bombing and expressed their sympathies.

This delegation handed over a message by the People's Revolutionary Union of Kurdistan to the secretary general of the DPK in Iran, the text of which is as follows:

Combatant Comrade Mostafa Hejri, secretary general of the DPK in Iran: Salutations of resistance. We received the news of the bombing of the Political Bureau of your party by the aggressive clerical regime's bombers. It is obvious that this aggression and threat is not unprecedented or unforeseen.

(?It is clear) to all that the Iranian regime perpetrates acts of aerial aggression against the DPK in Iran and neither the Kords nor the revolutionaries are (?intimidated) by the sounds of the enemy's warplanes. Therefore, I am confident and assure our people that the Islamic Republic cannot save itself from the freedom-loving movement of the people of Kordestan or the activities

This report may contain copyrighted material. Copying and dissemination is prohibited without permission of the copyright owners.

and struggle of the peshmerga forces by resorting to such actions and that the enemy cannot stem our revolutionary struggle with the roar of artillery and airplanes.

Even though such bombing can inflict some damage on you, fortunately it has not caused any casualties. Therefore, I will not say that I express my sympathies. On the contrary, I will express my congratulations and greetings on this senseless and foolish act of the clerics. This is because they do not realize that the size of the issue of the tyrannized Kurdish people is reflected as many times greater than the bombs they have jettisoned and is a source of shame for them and elicits the attention and support of the humanitarian public in the world toward this issue.

We hope that the lawful and rightful struggle of the Kurdish people will attain victory as soon as possible and all the anti-Kurdish aggression will be ended. May you be happy and successful.

[Signed] Your brother, Hoseyn Yazdanpanah, 9 November 1994

Esteemed listeners, with regard to the bombing a message was received by the politburo of the al-Hizb al-Shuyu'i al-Kurdistan al-'Iraq [Iraqi Communist Party] to which we draw your attention:

To the Political Bureau of the DPK in Iran: With warm revolutionary salutations. We heard the news of the bombing of your combatant party's base in Kuy Sanjaq, which generated loathing and hatred in us. We strongly condemn this disgraceful action and call on the United Nations to define limits for the criminal deeds of the Islamic Republic of Iran against the Kurdish people. We express our concern and anger at the wounding of some of your noble peshmergas and the defenseless sister who was martyred in the incident.

[Signed] Politburo of the al-Hizb al Shuyu'i' al-Kurdistan al-'Iraq, 10 November 1994

State Department Report Seen as MKO 'Setback'

NC1011204794 Tehran TEHRAN TIMES in English 5 Nov 94 p 2

[Editorial: "The State Department Report on the MKO, a Rude Awakening for the West"]

[FBIS Transcribed Text] In a report issued last Tuesday, the U.S. State Department admitted that the terrorist Mojahedin-e Khalq Organization (MKO) had a grim record of treachery, crime, assassination and kidnapping in Iran and in other countries including Iraq. This condemnation of MKO took place despite the fact that the Zionist pressure groups within the U.S. lobbied hard for the recognition of MKO.

Referring to MKO as "fundamentally undemocratic," the 41-page report which has 13 pages of footnotes and names of experts on Iran, is based on information from the U.S. intelligence agencies, MKO sympathizers and an analysis of MKO literature. The report says that the MKO has no popular base whatsoever inside Iran and concludes that MKO cannot be a viable alternative to the present Islamic Republic of Iran. This setback for the MKO should teach its unintelligent leadership that one may fool some of the people all the time, or all the people some of the time, but one cannot fool all the people all the time.

Before and after the triumph of the Islamic Revolution in Iran, MKO engaged in activities that showed its penchant for opportunism and flip-flop politics. After their flight from the Islamic Republic, they did everything within their power to present themselves to the naive Western politicians as the alternative to the Islamic government in Iran. Giving up their anti-imperialist stance was only one among many sudden overnight metamorphoses, u-turns, and zig-zag politics for which MKO has become notorious among Iranians. By relinquishing the old anti-imperialist stance, the MKO leadership hoped that they would appease the U.S. and the Zionist regime.

But the war between the U.S. and Iraq, the Oil War, and its aftermath helped the unwitting Western observers discover the real nature of MKO: A terrorist, mercenary mafia ready for hire even by the most brutal living figure in the region, Saddam Husayn. The MKO in Iraq acted as Saddam's executioners, murdering and massacring the Kurds in the North and the Shiites in the South of Iraq.

The defection of so many MKO members to the West also helped divulge what was going on in MKO-held camps inside Iraq. Prior to these defections, the West considered Iran's reports about the situation in MKO camps as lurid tales of sexual harassment, imprisonment, torture and murder. But after the ex-MKO members were able to reach Western reporters, some of the Western human rights groups, such as Human Rights Watch/Middle East, were alarmed and demanded investigations into the human rights violations of the MKO.

The State Department Report comes on the heels of this new awareness in the West that, up to recent times, most Western politicians were bamboozled by the tricky MKO.

Western officials are now even angry at the terrorist outfit for leading them to believe that they were the voice of reason and restraint, for hiding their true nature as mercenaries for Saddam. It is only natural for them to feel this anger: No victim was ever free from anger against the victimizer. The report by the State Department is indicative of a rude awakening in the West, an awakening to the fact that they should not take claims by dubious "freedom fighters" at face value, that whatever the Islamic Republic was saying all along against the unprincipled, murderous MKO was all true.

It is a pity that it took the West all these years to realize this fact. It is sad that the West did not realize the

This report may contain copyrighted material. Copying and dissemination is prohibited without permission of the copyright owners.

terrorist nature of MKO when they shed the blood of martyrs such as the late president Mohammad 'Ali Raja'i, the premier Mohammad Javad Bahonar and chief justice Mohammad Beheshti.

U.S. Warship 'Chased Away' After 'Harassment'

NC1311142694 Paris AFP in English 1312 GMT 13 Nov 94

[FBIS Transcribed Text] Tehran, Nov 13 (AFP)—Revolutionary Guards militiamen in speedboats chased away a US warship in the Gulf after it "harassed" an Iranian cargo vessel, a newspaper reported Sunday. KAYHAN said that after the "latest (US) act of harassment," Iranian speedboats "circled the warship, forcing it to clear the way" for the cargo vessel.

Iran has lodged a protest at the United Nations over a "a number of illegal acts of violation by US warships" in the Gulf, the paper said, quoting an informed source. "They are uninvited guests and provoke tension in the sensitive region of the Persian Gulf," the source said, warning that such "acts of provocation could lead to undesirable consequences."

Since the end of the 1991 Gulf War for Kuwait, US naval forces have staged regular joint maneuvers with the Gulf Arab states. The United States also ordered a build-up of its forces in the Gulf last month to defend Kuwait after an Iraqi movement of troops near the border with Kuwait.

Iranian leaders have repeatedly criticized the presence of American forces in the region. A military official said last month that Iran had protested to the United Nations over "provocative measures by US warships against Iranian helicopters and vessels in the region."

Iranian speedboats manned by Revolutionary Guards played a major role in the 1980-1988 war against Iraq.

Editorials Comment on U.S. Election Results

LD1311134294 Tehran IRNA in English 1224 GMT 13 Nov 94

[FBIS Transcribed Text] Tehran, Nov. 13, IRNA—Two English-language dailies, IRAN NEWS and KAYHAN INTERNATIONAL, in their editorials here Sunday [13 November] touched on Democrats historic defeat in the recent U.S. elections.

IRAN NEWS questioned the Americans need of a real third political party and KAYHAN INTERNATIONAL called it a disaster for Clinton. It said before the polls, pundits of the democratic order believed Clinton's latest foreign policy achievements would cast the ruling party in better light.

Referring to the statements of the U.S. Secretary of State Warren Christopher who was quick to announce that Democrats defeat would have no effect on American foreign policy, IRAN NEWS said, "How he intends to put this into practice with a badly weakened president, a no-no for implementing a strong foreign policy, remains to be seen".

Commenting on the factors which contribute to Democrats defeat, the daily blames Clinton's decisions regarding domestic issues and foreign policy area.

On the domestic decisions, it refers to cultural and moral issues, which caused Clinton to lose his advocates among more traditional voters, or his other decision which resulted in weakening of the labor unions, the strongest bastions of the Democratic Party.

Yet, IRAN NEWS considers Democrats defeat in foreign policy domain, where the paper says Clinton has made decisions not compatible with the wishes and aspirations of the American people who expected a fundamental change in Washington's conduct of foreign policy at the end of the Cold War era.

According to IRAN NEWS Clinton's handling of the Balkan crisis contrasted sharply with the rhetoric of his election campaign. It said, "after the collapse of the Soviet Union and its Eastern Europe allies, however, the American people had been expecting a new chapter in foreign dealings which would not be dominated by deception, and intrigue, spies and deep security".

In this respect, IRAN NEWS added, a lot of hopes were staked on the future of their country in the young Clinton who has, from the outset, been dominated by the Zionist lobby and appointed more openly Zionist administration officials than anyone in the American history.

Now the Americans are faced with the new "bogeyman" of political Islam which is no more or less than subjected peoples looking to gain their natural rights, IRAN NEWS wrote. It added that unfortunately for Clinton and the American public, the Zionists have deftly manipulated the Muslim world's legitimate demands as a means of frightening the Americans and mobilizing extensive political and financial assistance for Israel.

Now the most pertinent question for the moment is whether the time has arrived for the Americans to enjoy the right of freer and more broad-based elections through the emergence of alternative third political party, IRAN NEWS concluded.

KAYHAN INTERNATIONAL wrote that the so-called Middle East peace engineered in Washington and the hasty compromise deal between Yitzhaq Rabin and King Hussein before Tuesday's ballot, was supposed to add to Clinton's popularity but it did not come to the aid of the staunchly pro-Israel American President.

Humiliation has come across America's not at the hands of the Iranians, Iraqis, Palestinians or others openly hostile to U.S. interference in other peoples affairs, it said.

This report may contain copyrighted material. Copying and dissemination is prohibited without permission of the copyright owners.

"Of course this does not mean that Clinton rush into Middle East affairs broke the back of the Democrats, yet, a whole list of national and international gaffes got together and kicked out the Democrats from high places."

Whether or not Clinton will be able to compensate last week's double defeat remains to be seen. Though, KAYHAN added, his changes of re-election in 1996 are as bleak as the prospects of improving Tehran-Washington ties, one thing is certain, "the White House has a weaker president."

Tehran is also watching Clinton's slide and his presidency's ill-convinced Middle East agenda in general and its Iran policy in particular, the non-stop anti-Iran propaganda by the corrupted CIA and the old, tired and faltering Warren Christopher was inter alia, not to the benefit of Clinton, it added.

According to the daily Clinton as per his own calculations was offering something attractive to his people before the poll, the Arab-Zionists compromise deal, yet, result of the elections proved Americans are disgusted by his rhetoric and want change at all levels.

"Days of the Democrats may well be over," KAYHAN INTERNATIONAL concluded.

Domestic 'Pressure' Linked to U.S. Move on B-H

LD1211124694 Tehran Voice of the Islamic Republic of Iran First Program Network in Persian 1100 GMT 12 Nov 94

[Unattributed commentary]

[FBIS Translated Text] According to news reports, U.S. President Bill Clinton has issued an order to that country's Armed Forces to halt the arms embargo on Bosnia from midnight on Saturday and to suspend the plan for preventing the movement of military convoys [as heard] through the Adriatic to the Bosnian Government. According to the new order issued by Clinton's administration, which has resulted in heated debates among America's European allies, the U.S. Navy will not prevent the movement of ships transporting weapons to Bosnia.

Some European countries such as France, England, and Russia have expressed strong opposition to this measure and believe that this unilateral decision by the U.S. Government will further aggravate the fighting in Bosnia.

According to political analysts, recent developments in Bosnia—especially the recent decision of the U.S. Government to suspend the military embargo of the Muslims, despite the opposition of European countries—point to the fact that world politics in that part of Europe have not yet reached a balanced position for putting an end to the fighting. This measure demonstrates the assertion of power by America in the face of the United Nations and especially the European Community, which has always tried to find a way to resolve the conflict in Bosnia through UN resolutions and by means of legal and diplomatic measures. However, it should be added that the strategy of the EU [European Union] member countries toward the Bosnian crisis has never gone beyond the approval of resolutions and the verbal condemnation of the Serbs.

Nevertheless, it seems that America is trying through this new tactical move to find an opportunity to seize the initiative from her European rivals. The record of EU experience in Bosnia clearly demonstrates to what extent the inappropriate means and uncoordinated activities of the EU member countries have prevented any effective measures for ending the Bosnian crisis.

Furthermore, political analysts believe that—even from a purely organizational point of view—the EU is not sufficiently ready to play a realistic role in the former Yugoslavia. Therefore, the lack of a permanent structure within the EU for confronting crises like the Bosnian conflict, and the absence of an international organization with binding power to adopt and implement an active and progressive foreign policy, have resulted in enabling the U.S. Government through a new political confrontation to adopt a peace-loving posture in defense of the Bosnian Muslims.

Another fact that should be remembered is that the Clinton administration has not adopted such a policy with the aim of defending the rights of the Bosnian Muslims. On the contrary, the pressure of domestic policies in America, especially the pressure exerted by the Republicans who have recently achieved a majority in the Congress, have forced the Clinton administration to resort to new political maneuvers in foreign policy fields in order to overshadow the recent defeats suffered by the Democrats. The cancellation of the military embargo of Bosnia is a clear example of such a move.

Envoy, Kuwaiti Ministers Discuss Cooperation

LD1311162894 Tehran IRNA in English 1535 GMT 13 Nov 94

[FBIS Transcribed Text] Tehran, Nov. 13, IRNA—Iran's new ambassador to Kuwait, Gholamali San'ati held separate talks with two Kuwaiti cabinet ministers Sunday on enhancing the level of cooperation between the two countries.

Sanati exchanged views with the Kuwaiti minister of oil, 'Abd-al-Muhsin Mid'aj on the developments in the oil market, the production ceiling and the oil prices. They also discussed the issue of electing a new secretary general for the Organization of Petroleum Exporting Countries (OPEC).

In the meantime, the Iranian ambassador held a separate meeting with Kuwait's minister of communications [as received], electricity and water, Jasim al-'Awn on mutual

This report may contain copyrighted material. Copying and dissemination is prohibited without permission of the copyright owners.

cooperation including tourism and making use of Iran's telecommunication facilities to link Kuwait with Central Asia.

Spokesman Discusses Bosnia, Tajikistan, Turkey

LD1211162794 Tehran IRNA in English 1547 GMT 12 Nov 94

[FBIS Transcribed Text] Tehran, Nov. 12, IRNA—Foreign Ministry spokesman, Mahmud Mohammadi said here today that Iran's policy has always been aimed at lifting the arms embargo against Bosnia and establishment of peace and tranquility in the republic.

In an interview with IRNA, answering to a question on Washington's withdrawal from monitoring the arms embargo against Bosnia which has been engaged in an unequal war for 31 months, he said that according to Article 51 of the United Nation Charter, the Bosnian Government should enjoy the rights of legitimate defence. Nonetheless, he said, lifting the arms embargo would not be enough and peace and security should be guaranteed in Bosnia. The United Nations should take immediate action to prevent the Serbs from invading Bosnia and put an end to the fighting, said the spokesman.

Asked about certain countries who opposed the lifting of the embargo against Bosnia, Mohammadi said any opposition by any country would be considered as anti-Islamic, anti-peace and in violation of human rights in the opinion of the world Muslims. He described the lifting of the arms embargo against Bosnia as a prerequisite for establishment of peace and said that there was no balance of force between Bosnia and the supporters of the Serbs. Mohammadi expressed concern that the opponents of the lifting of the arms embargo may use the existing lack of balance against the Muslims.

Asked about Iran's mediation efforts in Tajikistan and non-participation of Muslims in the elections, he said establishment of ceasefire would be impossible unless a comprehensive understanding is reached between all the belligerent parties in Tajikistan. Mohammadi said the former trend continues in Tajikistan. The neighboring states' peace efforts resulted in reaching an understanding between the opponents in Tajikistan, but, such an understanding was not enough though it was a requisite for a lasting peace, he said. He elaborated that truce would not be decisive if it lacked the support of a just and honorable peace. The Foreign Ministry spokesman said, "we advise the Tajik Government to use the present opportunity in order to reach a comprehensive understanding with Tajiki people."

Asked about Iran's role in swapping of the hostages and prisoners between the government and the Tajik opposition, he said the Iranian ambassador in Tajikistan is supervising the swap.

He denied news reports in the Turkish press that a Turkish opposition leader had been granted asylum in Iran.

Asked about Malaysia's decision to allow its Muslims to go to pilgrimage to Beit-ul-Moqadas and that such a move might get the Zionist regime out of isolation, he said Beit-ul-Moqadas belonged to Muslims but was under the occupation of the Zionist regime.

He said pilgrimage to Beit-ul-Moqadas was the cherished wish of the Iranian Muslims but that it was not possible for the Iranians to do so due to the deep hatred they have for the Zionists who have suppressed the Palestinian Muslims.

Commentary: 'No Excuse' for Sanctions on Iraq

LD1011223194 Tehran Voice of the Islamic Republic of Iran First Program Network in Persian 2030 GMT 10 Nov 94

[Unattributed commentary]

[FBIS Translated Text] In the presence of Russian Foreign Minister Andrey Kozyrev, the Iraqi parliament has held an extraordinary session in which the recognition of Kuwait's sovereignty and territorial integrity was discussed.

The recognition of Kuwait's territorial integrity has been made on the basis of Security Council Resolution 833 in which the Kuwait-Iraqi border is as determined after the allied war against Iraq.

The recognition of Kuwaiti territorial integrity and sovereignty is a step by Iraq toward softening the conditions for lifting international sanctions. This step brings to an end the oil war file and the creation of tension in the region, and there will be no excuse for the continuation of political and economic sanctions.

The UN Security Council is to meet 14 November to discuss the possibility of ending sanctions against Iraq. Arguing that Iraq has not recognized Kuwaiti sovereignty and borders and thus constitutes a threat, America and Britain oppose the lifting of sanctions against Iraq. But with the recognition of Kuwait before the Security Council meeting, Iraq is trying to undermine this American and British rationale and thus strengthen the stance of those supporting the lifting of sanctions.

Among the Security Council members, Russia and France support the lifting of sanctions against Iraq. In the light of their historic relations with Iraq, France and Russia are trying to prepare Iraq's return to the international community. In such conditions Iraq could, through selling oil and obtaining greater revenues, repay its debts to them.

Furthermore, with regard to the limited role that America has allocated to other powers since the oil war in the Middle East, Russia and France are seeking a greater role in the Middle East through greater activity in Iraq and regional policies.

This report may contain copyrighted material. Copying and dissemination is prohibited without permission of the copyright owners.

Since the time of Kuwait independence in 1961, Iraq has never recognized this country as an independent unit and with the claim that Kuwait is one of its provinces, it has taken aggressive measures against Kuwait. The last measure was in 1990 when Iraq invaded Kuwait in a full scale war. Now experts believe the Iraqi measure is a tactic that could ease international tension against Baghdad.

It is not expected that the recognition of Kuwait will lead to a full solution between the two countries, but it will no longer be possible to rationalize the powerful presence of foreign powers in the region with the excuse of supporting Kuwaiti sovereignty and territorial integrity.

President Visits Bakhtaran, Views Iraq Relations

LD1011224194 Tehran IRNA in English 2209 GMT 10 Nov 94

[FBIS Transcribed Text] Gilan-e Gharb, Nov. 10, IRNA—President Hojjat ol-Eslam Akbar Hashemi-Rafsanjani was warmly welcomed by the people of this western city when he arrived here today in continuation of his visit of Bakhtaran Province. Shortly after arrival the President Rafsanjani did the ground picking for construction [of] an embankment dam called Kalashk. The dam to would [as received] have a storage capacity of 28.5 million cubic meters.

The Kalashk dam will supply water for irrigation of upwards of 4,700 hectares of nearby lands commonly used for dry farming. A total credit of rls 40 million has been earmarked for building the dam.

President Rafsanjani also picked the ground for an irrigation complex in the village of Nan, near Gilan-e Gharb which will supply potable water to 20 villages. The project is to be carried out by investing about rls 1.10 billion.

In Gilan-e Gharb, he addressed an assembly of the people and lauded their brave resistance during the nearly eight years of the Iraqi war (1980-88). He said his administration had already expended rls 60 billion for rebuilding damaged areas and buildings. He said the administration had projects for ensuring employment of youth in the province.

On Thursday Rafsanjani also visited historical sites in the province as well as the Taq-e Bostan sports gymnasium, now under construction.

In the city of Qasr-e Shirin Thursday, Hojjat ol-Eslam Rafsanjani told a public gathering that the Islamic Republic intends to maintain relations between the peoples of Iran and Iraq and make it possible for the people of Iran to visit the shrines in Iraq. He said the border city of Qasr-e Shirin, too, is now considered as having intrinsic tourist attractions.

Rafsanjani said the government intends to improve upon agricultural production in Bakhtaran for example by improving the culture of olive trees and dates, and by developing fisheries. He also lauded the brave resistance of the people of Qasr-e Shirin during the war years. The president indicated that low-interest loans to local farmers and establishment of a local university are among other projects of his administration for Qasr-e Shirin.

On Thursday night President Hojjat ol-Eslam Akbar Hashemi-Rafsanjani also met chancellor of the Medical Science University of Kermanshah and its senior members and also a group of cardio-vascular doctors. He welcomed a project for building a major cardio-surgery hospital in Kermanshah. Upon completion, the cardio-surgery hospital of Kermanshah will admit patients from western and southern provinces of Iran.

The chancellor of Kermanshah Medical Science University offered a report to President Rafsanjani on the current status of medical education and medicare services in Bakhtaran Province.

Later at night President Rafsanjani also visited an exhibition in Kermanshah of handwoven carpets. The Construction Jihad of Bakhtaran now patronizes 110 carpet-weaving cooperatives that have 300,000 weaving looms employing 400,000 weavers. The Construction Jihad has also offered training on carpet-weaving to 4,800 rural women in the province of Kermanshah.

Jannati Delivers Friday Prayer Sermons

First Sermon

LD1111163094 Tehran Voice of the Islamic Republic of Iran First Program Network in Persian 1130 GMT 11 Nov 94

[First sermon of Friday prayers delivered by Ayatollah Ahmad Jannati, member of the Council of Guardians, on 11 November in Tehran—recorded]

[FBIS Translated Excerpt] May God's peace and blessing be upon you. In the Name of God, the Merciful, the Compassionate. [passage omitted]

I wish to raise a number of issues in this sermon. I have another issue to talk about in my second sermon. In my first sermon I deem it necessary to talk about the topics which are normally mentioned in the second sermon. I feel obliged to thank all our dear and noble people for their participation in the 11 Aban rallies, which were organized to mark 13 Aban [4 November], the campaign day against global arrogance, headed by the United States. [passage omitted]

Alongside this celebration of 11 Aban, I want to make two points: First, this ceremony conveyed a message to America. No doubt the United States has heard the message, it cannot be otherwise. The message is this: Our people are not cowards who will abandon their objectives through intimidation or any other factors. These people are loyal to their principles, religion, Islam,

This report may contain copyrighted material. Copying and dissemination is prohibited without permission of the copyright owners.

revolution, the imam and leader. Wherever necessary they will stand together, especially against the United States.

The only effect of the pressure exerted by the United States and American elements on our people is that it makes them more determined, gives them more power, and enhances their prestige. It has a negative affect on the enemy and a positive effect on us. [passage omitted] That is the first message conveyed by that march that the U.S. must have received.

The second message delivered by this march was aimed at our own officials, and that is: Wherever you wish to send us to protect Islam, the revolution, and the Islamic system, we are ready to go. Therefore, it is your responsibility to ensure that we are able to pay our due. [passage omitted]

I also wish to express my gratitude to the esteemed Majles for their discussion of the second development plan, especially the note on the second development plan concerning the campaign against luxurious expenditure and consumerism, which is a very important issue. [passage omitted]

I thank the esteemed Majles and also the government which prepared the bill. My request from the Majles and the government is to follow it up. To have a bill only on paper does not serve any purpose. If someone undertakes this task, he will understand what I am saying. There have been other laws which have been approved but have not been implemented correctly. One should investigate this. Then it will be revealed where our difficulties lie.

We often face legal problems which could be solved easily. But our main problem is in the implementation phase. Therefore, the bill needs to be followed up and should be supervised constantly to ensure the implementation of this law. Unnecessary expenditure should be prevented in every area, whether it is in the state administrative departments or in the private sector.

The other issue is that of profiteering. Again I express thanks to our dear and esteemed brother, the president, His Excellency Hashemi-Rafsanjani, who pursues this issue seriously. His eminence, the leader also approves of the campaign. Support has been expressed from every corner for the president. Most of all, however, the president needs cooperation and assistance. When a person takes a step and wants to serve people in the best manner, any honest devoted individual should render assistance to that person.

The enemies pinned many hopes on the issue of inflation and the people's general concerns over high prices. They saw this as a good ground and framework for dissemination of their sinister ideas and in order to weaken the foundation of the Islamic Republic. They are saying that the system of the Islamic Republic cannot govern over its people and that the people are unhappy. When people are unhappy, what can the system do? People are everything. A system takes its power from the people. If the people are unhappy, then the system does not have any power.

The enemies pinned many hopes on this. Anyway, a measure was taken. It was declared officially that the issue is a serious matter. It has been pursued so far with seriousness. However, we should help. Those people who know the profiteers and know where the goods are hoarded should come forward and reveal them. Those people who are able to give advice should advise. Those people who want to comment should comment. This is a general concern. It is not related to an individual. This concern is expressed for the 60 million people of this country. Therefore, we should help. A wrench should not be put in the works. It is a great sin and is a betrayal of the people. But serious support should be given to this issue. This is a lawful duty. It is in the interest of the regime, Islam, and the people. [passage omitted]

There is another point. We sometimes see that the hoarders hide the goods and say: We bought expensive. This is really funny. How come when goods were becoming more expensive none of them said: we bought cheap. Come on customer, I bought this 10 days ago, it was 100 tomans cheaper, let me sell it to you at the price of purchase. None of them are like this. Well, this is it. One day you buy cheap, the market prices go up, and you sell for more. One day you buy things that are expensive, the prices fall, and you have to sell cheap. You must now pay back a little of the profit you made. Furthermore, you are getting the very goods you are selling. If you sold sugar for 100 tomans today—imagine you had bought it at 150 tomans—if you sell 100 kg of it to the people then you will receive 100 kg [from the state], another 100 kg with the same money. You won't lose. But you will not get easy money. They should be fair, really. They should be a little considerate. They should see how the consumer is suffering because of profiteers. I will leave it there.

Another issue: I have to thank God for the victories gained by our dear brothers in Bosnia. For more than 30 months they were under continuous pressure. The enemy was occupying their land, killing their youth, and creating the corruptions and plots you know about. Now thank God, there has been a blessing. These innocent people have been able, with the blessing of God and God's servants, to recapture parts of the occupied territories, to create fear in the hearts of the Serbian criminals, and to make the Serbs understand a little that they are not always victorious, and that sooner or later the curse of the innocent will be effective. A large part of the occupied territories has been taken back and the enemy is totally frightened. There is great hope for the future. Some of the the money that you dear people have given for their aid, is still available. Goods and foodstuffs are being bought continuously for them. Clothes and heating material have been purchased and are being sent for them. [passage omitted]

This report may contain copyrighted material. Copying and dissemination is prohibited without permission of the copyright owners.

Another issue I wish to discuss this week is the literacy campaign. I would like to say very briefly that we live in a country ruled by Islam. No other religion has attached as much importance to science and literacy as the religion of Islam. It is surprising, therefore, that there are a large number—around 10-11 million—of illiterate people in our country. This is a big shame indeed. This would discredit Islam. The Muslims should realize that Islam says one must pursue knowledge at any age. It is said there are 5 million illiterate people in our country below the age of 40. [passage omitted]

A last part of my remarks is going to be about a subject which requires much more discussion. However, I have to summarize my remarks on the subject as time is short:

You have heard from various sources that a group of so-called writers has written an open letter to the effect that in this country, writers are restricted and deprived of freedom of expression. This letter has been distributed in various places. As a result it has provided good propaganda for some radio stations which pretend to feel sorry for our people. The BBC in London, which pretends to be very sympathetic toward the people of the world, is truly bleeding in its heart with the sorrow that our people are deprived of freedom. Similarly, Radio Israel and their ilk have found a good propaganda subject and have read the letter over their radios several times. They have also held discussions over the issue.

Frankly, I do not understand the mentality of these writers. What is it they wish to write that they feel they are not allowed to? If you writers intend to write something logical, no one is stopping you. If you intend to write something unreasonable, what conscience, which religion, and what honorable government would allow you to write abusive articles? You are the sort of people who, if you were given freedom, would translate sexy western books to distribute among our children. This is one of the jobs that you badly miss. Is the system justified to stop you or not? Will the people allow the authorities of the regime, the Islamic Guidance Ministry, to grant you licence to translate such books? You plan to undermine the people's belief.

And then you want to damage the people's faith and mar the notions of God, Islam, the Prophet, and the Lord of the Age. Then you want to give your writings to semi-literate people, such as students who have not done much study, and therefore are not very firm in their faith. You want to damage their faith. Is this right? Should this be permitted?

You want to write lies, accuse and disgrace people without any reason. I just want to ask you a question before leaving this topic alone. My question is: Where have you all been during the last 10 or 20 years? Where were you during all the historical junctures of the revolution? [passage omitted] What are you after now that you have suddenly appeared on the scene? What did you do when the integrity of so many people in Bosnia was attacked? You did not even say a word, you seemed to be dead. [passage omitted]

Are our people willing to permit you freedom to propagate corruption? Right now, with the type of pretentions you have....[pauses] A lot of people are angry at individuals who write irrelevant things in different magazines. I want to tell these individuals who are promoting corrupt values—about whom we and the Ministry of Islamic Guidance have received many complaints—to be more careful. People do not need your utterances. They need other things. I warn you that if you persist in your ways, then the Hezbollah people will surely feel obliged to take action.

Second Sermon

LD1111180694 Tehran Voice of the Islamic Republic of Iran First Program Network in Persian 1154 GMT 11 Nov 94

[Second sermon of delivered by Ayatollah Ahmad Jannati, member of the Council of Guardians, in Tehran on 11 November—recorded]

[FBIS Translated Excerpt] [passage omitted] I want to talk about an issue in this sermon which needs to be continued on later occasions. It is a lengthy debate, and I do not know how much I can deal with it today. In any case, I will deal with it as much as I can.

This issue concerns religious emulation. [passage omitted] There are many issues which make it necessary for our people, especially under the present conditions, to emulate with awareness. Apart from the fact that one should have a source of emulation to know God's decrees on worship, prayer, and other religious strictures, the whole issue concerns the leaving of one's religion in someone else's hands. [passage omitted]

The issue of emulation is extremely important. It is the most important issue. To consider the issue as simple is tantamount to simple-mindedness. When you look at the various dimensions of the issue you see that it can determine the destiny of people. Therefore, if you deal with it in an unaware manner, then the harm will be manyfold. Under the conditions of Islamic revolution, our people must have good awareness of all issues, in particular such fundamental issues.

The enemies have understood the issue very well. They are still scarred by the blows dealt to them by all the decrees issued by different sources of emulation.

The last of these decrees, apart from all the other decrees to do with the Islamic revolution, was Imam Khomeyni's decree on Salman Rushdie. This was like a bone which got stuck in their throats. Just look at the importance of the issue. They are doing their utmost by their adverse propaganda and their ceaseless maneuvers with the aim of cancelling that decree. The decree still remains in force, and cannot be canceled. It will remain in force while that man is still alive.

This is just one manifestation of the role of marjai'yat [the status of being a source of emulation] and the

This report may contain copyrighted material. Copying and dissemination is prohibited without permission of the copyright owners.

Islamic government. You can see what power these sources of emulation bring about, and what a lot of good timely decrees can do. That decree had a major impact on the world. I do not have the time here to deal fully with the impact. Suffice it to say that it has brought a lot of blessings for us.

The enemy understands a situation such as this. They therefore try to do two things. First they try....[pauses] I am giving here an ultimatum to whoever is listening to these remarks. If they hear this and then choose to ignore it, they will then have to account for their action on the Day of Judgement. This is because becoming a tool in the hands of the enemies is not a small issue.

The enemy first tries to take marjai'yat out of Iran. They say that it is not right that Islam's political power and its religious authority should be concentrated in one single place. The enemy has been hurt by this. They think that it would be good if they could separate the two from each another—that is, political power should be in Iran but religious authority should be elsewhere.

They think that separating the two powers will naturally lead to weakness; and that through the religious power they can destroy the political power. This is a very simple two-plus-two calculation which every 10- or 12-year-old child understands and the enemy also knows. This is what they are investing in, that the source of emulation should not be in Iran. This is the first point.

The second point is that, well, let us look outside Iran, who can we find? They are again trying to find someone who believes that religion should be separate from politics, exactly the same policy which was the root of all our evils in the past thousand years. This evil had afflicted the people for a thousand years, until the esteemed imam found a solution to it.

Now they want to find someone who would once again take up the former position and separate religion from politics, who would say that he is not concerned about anything good or evil which may befall the people; that he would only say things like water is pure, blood is impure, if a place was polluted as the result of urine you should wash it twice, but if it was polluted with blood, you should wash it only once; perform your ablutions in such and such a way and carry out your immersion in the water like that; that these are the rulings about menstrual discharge and discharge at childbirth; this is how you should kneel and bow down, and this is how you should pay your alms. However, if the enemy came and attacked Iraq it has nothing to do with him; if in Bosnia-Herzegovina they raped the women it has nothing to do with him. He will only issue a fatwa, and not about those political issues but about such religious issues.

A revolution took place in Iran, but you [not further identified] did not utter a single word. The Imam spent a dozen years in Najaf; you did not visit him once. The late [Ayatollah] Sadr's heart was bleeding. Sadr went to visit you, hoping that he could win you over, yet you did not return the visit. Throughout all the crises and calamities which took place in Iraq and afflicted the people, you did not utter a single word.

They wish to find such a man and entrust the religious power of Islam to him! In that case, one should say goodbye to Islam. This is what the enemy is investing in, and the center of it is in London. What I am saying is based on facts and documents; it is not just guesswork. This is what is being done by London. It is a very calculated plan, and if they succeed in it, they have achieved their end.

Now, let this be my word and my testimony. Let this be the basis of public awareness. These are the recommendations of the imam, and this is the Islamic revolution, and those who wish to entrust their religion to the hands of others....[pauses] Let us move on.

The qualifications which a marja' [source of emulation] should possess are not so simple. One is the issue of his learning, upon which they are concentrating their minds. Let me say one word about this issue of scholarship. The scholarship which we need at the moment is one by means of which the marja' can pass a judgement on all juridical matters and can defend his stance in such a way that religious seminaries and jurisprudential centers would accept. This is what concerns the issue of consensus [preceding word in Arabic, ijma'].

Those who are in the field at the moment are very close to each other. They hold similar views. The difference between them is not such that one can decisively and definitely say that this one is more erudite and the other one is less erudite. They are very close together in their degree of learning. We do not possess the kind of scale which will be able to measure such things and say if one is an ounce more learned than the other. Therefore, one should not concentrate on this issue too much. What I said—namely, that this person should issue jurisprudential fatwa and should be able to defend his opinion—this is sufficient and at the moment we cannot look for more. Therefore, one cannot dwell too much on this issue. I am saying this on the basis of my knowledge and my own research.

The next qualification is the issue of piety. The kind of piety that is referred to here is much more important than the piety that one is looking for in a prayer leader. If the standards of piety in a prayer leader are rather weak, that will not produce too much harm and will not deliver many blows. Even if it delivers a blow, it will be a very mild blow and will result in a minor cut. However if, God forbid, this standard of piety is weak in a marja'—I am not saying that if this piety is nonexistent, I am saying that if it is weak—it is clear what its consequences would be, due to the importance of the role of the marja'.

The people's property in the form of religious dues will be put at his disposal without any questions being asked

This report may contain copyrighted material. Copying and dissemination is prohibited without permission of the copyright owners.

and without any accountability. He should be so trustworthy that nothing would tempt him to spend a penny of those funds on anything except for the expenditures desired by God and dictated by the shari'ah. This is not a simple matter. [passage omitted]

This position requires a piety which will enable him to safeguard the religion of God which is entrusted to him and which is the greatest trust. The issue is the issue of being the vice gerent of the Hidden Imam, peace be upon him. He is the inheritor of the prophets. [crowd chants slogans] The issue is not so simple. One should not deal with the matter so lightly, that anyone who possesses some jurisprudential and scholarly learning can be put in the place of Imam Musa bin-Ja'far, or Imam Ja'far Sadiq or Imam Riza, peace be upon them. [passage omitted]

It is up to the Assembly of Experts to decide on the issue of the suitability of the person. I may not be able to discuss the issue of the Assembly of Experts adequately in this sermon; but I only wish to refer to the point that the experts who from the viewpoint of scholarship, of piety, and of religious qualification are the trusted experts in this matter, they should decide. It is clear that an illiterate commoner will not be able to decide. He is neither able to decide the degree of the learning or the piety of the marja', because he has had no contact or familiarity with him. [passage omitted]

Sri Lanka

Chandrika Kumaratunga Sworn In as New President

To Appoint Mother as Prime Minister

BK1211114894 Colombo Sri Lanka Broadcasting Corporation International Service in English 1045 GMT 12 Nov 94

[FBIS Transcribed Text] Chandrika Bandaranaike-Kumaratunga, who received a sweeping mandate at the presidential election last Wednesday [9 November], is now Sri Lanka's new president. She is the country's fourth executive president and the first woman to hold this high office. At elections, she received an unprecedented 62.28 percentage of the votes polled. She took oath before the chief justice, G.P.S. de Silva.

President Chandrika Bandaranaike-Kumaratunga pledged to dedicate herself to fulfill the aspirations of the people to wipe out terror, overcome the misuse of power, and bring peace to the country. Addressing the nation after assuming the high office of the presidency at the Presidential Secretariat this morning, she said the people of this country have displayed their firm resolve to give the People's Alliance a victory of the scale with a profound desire for change. Their vote was a vote for change. Preeminent among the changes that the people yearn for is the rejection of violence and terror. They have endured in silence the pain of senseless killings and the disappearance of their loved ones. During the years, which spanned almost two decades, human lives became incredibly cheap. State terror raised its ugly and continued unabated in its destructive path. A callous regime, which looked upon political power only as an instrument for retainment of its narrow and self interests, violated with impunity all canons of decency, equity, and fair play and left behind the society groping for a sense of security and fulfillment in the absence of norms and merits.

The people have given a mandate for peace and human values. They have convincingly proved to the world that all the might of the bullet can be defeated by the ballot. The youth of our nation have responded to our call to eschew violence and take up with us the banner of freedom, democracy, human decency, and prosperity for all. She said we pay homage to youths for placing their faith in our ability to deliver the good. The verdict of our people leaves me in no doubt of the depth and intensity of their desire for peace. This must be, however, peace with honor of both parties to the conflict. Mrs. Kumaratunga pledged that her government will continue the quest for peace, recognizing that the path is difficult and tortuous. We will ensure that our approach to peace will fully address the necessity to safeguard and strengthen the rights of the Sinhalese people while recognizing dignity, self-respect, and equality of treatment for all communities. The country has endorsed in the most explicit terms the measures taken by her government to wipe out political violence and state terror and to restore integrity and honor to the politics of the country.

Noting that the people have understood the gravely harmful effects of the executive presidential system of government on the vigor and vitality of the democratic way of life, the new president promised to eradicate this blemish from the Constitution of the country.

It is extremely necessary to take immediate measures to ease economic difficulties striking the people due to the high cost of living and underemployment. She said the priority task of the new government is to ensure that the economy is fully free and competitive so that there is honesty and transparency in transactions. Foreign investment will be encouraged and protected. The government will also ensure that the benefits of this development will reach the poorer segments of the population through equitable and efficient distribution of income chances and increased employment.

In dedicating herself and the government to the accomplishment of these goals, Mrs. Kumaratunga requested the continued support and cooperation of people. She said the hope and faith you have expressed in us is a beacon which lights our path. The guidance and supported extended to us gives the courage and dedication to go on. The new president concluded by saying let us together clime these unreachable heights and realize that difficult but beautiful dream.

At the end of the swearing in ceremony, the new president was accorded a guard of honor by the armed forces.

This report may contain copyrighted material. Copying and dissemination is prohibited without permission of the copyright owners.

The ceremony was brief and simple. Among those present were speaker, parliamentarians, and members of the diplomatic corps.

[Hong Kong AFP in English at 1021 GMT on 12 November adds: "President Chandrika Kumaratunga announced Saturday she will appoint her mother, Sirima Bandaranaike, as the new prime minister in a cabinet to be announced Sunday. The 78-year-old Bandaranaike, a senior minister without portfolio, held the prime minister's post from 1960 to 1965 and from 1970 to 1977. "I have proposed and agreed to it," Kumaratunga told reporters when asked to confirm reports that a mother-daughter team would rule the country. "Why, do you think it is nepotism?" she said."]

Views Foreign Investment, Peace

BK1311134194 Colombo Sri Lanka Broadcasting Corporation International Service in English 1045 GMT 13 Nov 94

[FBIS Transcribed Text] The government is to announce its policy guidelines to encourage foreign investment and ways of protecting ongoing projects. New areas of foreign investment will also be studied and made public shortly. These policies will be announced by the People's Alliance [PA] administration within two weeks.

This was disclosed by new President Chandrika Bandaranaike- Kumaratunga at a news conference attended by local and foreign media personnel at (Wisampara) in Colombo yesterday. The president said that all action taken by the government will be made public, openly and honestly. The transparency and accountability to the public will be strictly adhered to by the new administration.

She told newsmen that the strong and clear mandate given by the people was an indication of their endorsement of the continuation of the peace process. The people in the north and east have voted for the People's Alliance overwhelmingly to express their support for peace. In addition, the endorsement came (?by) the majority Sinhalese community was a clear approval of the ongoing peace process. The president noted that the restoration of peace in the country is not an easy one, but it has to be achieved by overcoming many obstacles.

Responding to a question raised by newsmen, she said that every effort will be made to restart the peace process as all religious sectors were in favor of this effort. Certain principles of justice, equity, and fair play will be adopted in seeking a solution to the ethnic crisis for the satisfaction of all communities.

President Kumaratunga noted with satisfaction that her first official act was meeting the press. She pointed out that during a very short period of three months, the People's Alliance government has been able to maintain a frank and open dialogue with the media. This will be continued in the future as well.

Foreign Minister Lakshman Kadirgamer told newsmen that the PA administration will maintain a foreign policy that builds cordial relations with other countries. Sri Lanka will intensify her foreign relations with donor countries, Western nations, and the newborn Republic of South Africa. Relations with neighboring Asian countries, ASEAN countries, and the Pacific region will be further strengthened.

Appoints New Cabinet

BK1411034694 Hong Kong AFP in English 0246 GMT 14 Nov 94

[FBIS Transcribed Text] Colombo, Nov 14 (AFP)—President Chandrika Kumaratunga Monday [14 November] appointed her mother and former premier, Sirima Bandaranaike, as the new Prime Minister in a 23-member cabinet sworn in before her.

President, Defence, Finance, Policy Planning, Ethnic Affairs and National Integration:	Chandrika Kumaratunga.
Prime Minister:	Sirima Bandaranaike.
Foreign Affairs:	Lakshman Kadirgamar.
Irrigation, Power and Energy:	Anuruddha Ratwatte.
Mass media, Tourism and Aviation:	Dharmasiri Senanayake.
Trade and Commerce:	Kingsley Wickremaratne.
Shipping, Ports and Rehabilitation:	Mohamed Ashraff.
Education and Higher Education:	Richard Pathirana.
Industrial Development:	Clement Gooneratne.
External Trade, Justice and Constitutional Affairs:	G.L. Peiris.
Posts and Telecommunications:	Mangala Samaraweera.
Cultural and Religious Affairs:	Lakshman Jayakody.
Agriculture, Lands and Forests:	D.M. Jayaratne.
Labour and Vocational Training:	Mahinda Rajapakse.
Housing, Construction and Public Utilities:	Nimal Siripala de Silva.
Science, Technology and Human Resources Development:	Bernard Soysa.
Public Administration, Local Government and Plantation Industries:	Ratnasiri Wickremanayake.
Fisheries and Aquatic Resources:	Indika Gunewardene.
Health and Social Services, Highways:	A.H.M. Fowzie.
Transport, Women's Affairs, Environment:	Srimani Athulathmudali.
Provincial Councils, Home Affairs and Cooperatives:	Amarasiri [name indistinct].
Youth Affairs and Sports:	S.B. Dissanayake.
Rural Industrial Development:	S. Thondaman.

This report may contain copyrighted material. Copying and dissemination is prohibited without permission of the copyright owners.

Bandaranaike Sworn In as Prime Minister

BK1411031394 Delhi All India Radio Network in English 0245 GMT 14 Nov 94

[FBIS Transcribed Text] In Sri Lanka, Mrs. Srimavo Bandaranaike was sworn in as prime minister this morning by her daughter and president, Mrs. Chandrika Bandaranaike-Kumaratunga. This is the third time Mrs. Bandaranaike has taken over as the prime minister.

Colombo Reportedly To Proceed With LTTE Talks

BK1211120994 Colombo Sri Lanka Broadcasting Corporation International Service in English 1045 GMT 12 Nov 94

[FBIS Transcribed Text] The People's Alliance government has decided to go ahead with peace negotiations suspended after the assassination of the United National Party presidential candidate, Gamini Dissanayake, in the suicide bomb attack. Informed sources said that the government is soon expected to reach the LTTE [Liberation Tigers of Tamil Eelam] high command through the ICRC [International Committee of the Red Cross].

Tamil sources said that the government had been strengthened as a result of national mandate secured by the premier to go ahead with peace talks.

Informed sources said that both the government and the LTTE were under pressure to negotiate a peaceful settlement in the northeast conflict. Even if the security officials believe the LTTE was responsible for the Dissanayake assassination, the government has decided to resume talks with the LTTE, sources added. The government is expected to inform the security forces chiefs shortly of its decision to recommence talks with the LTTE. The same four- member government delegation led by Mrs. Kumaratunga's private secretary, Kusum Balapatabendi, who took part in the first round of talks in Jaffna, is expected to take part in the second round of talks, sources indicated.

LTTE Announces Unilateral Cease-Fire

BK1311084394 Delhi All India Radio Network in English 0830 GMT 13 Nov 94

[FBIS Transcribed Text] In Sri Lanka, the LTTE [Liberation Tigers of Tamil Eelam] has declared a unilateral cease-fire to mark the inauguration of Mrs. Chandrika Bandaranaike-Kumaratunga as the new president. Quoting an announcement over LTTE's clandestine radio, official sources in Colombo said the militants will observe a one week truce. Mrs. Kumaratunga, who was elected president on Wednesday has initiated peace dialogue with the LTTE before the elections, but the talks were suspended after the assassination of opposition United National Party candidate, Gamini Dissanayake. After assuming the presidency yesterday, Mrs. Kumaratunga promised to continue the quest for peace.

This report may contain copyrighted material. Copying and dissemination is prohibited without permission of the copyright owners.

BULK RATE
U.S. POSTAGE
PAID
PERMIT NO. 352
MERRIFIELD, VA.

This is a U.S. Government publication. Its contents in no way represent the policies, views, or attitudes of the U.S. Government. Users of this publication may cite FBIS or JPRS provided they do so in a manner clearly identifying them as the secondary source.

Foreign Broadcast Information Service (FBIS) and Joint Publications Research Service (JPRS) publications contain political, military, economic, environmental, and sociological news, commentary, and other information, as well as scientific and technical data and reports. All information has been obtained from foreign radio and television broadcasts, news agency transmissions, newspapers, books, and periodicals. Items generally are processed from the first or best available sources. It should not be inferred that they have been disseminated only in the medium, in the language, or to the area indicated. Items from foreign language sources are translated; those from English-language sources are transcribed. Except for excluding certain diacritics, FBIS renders personal names and place-names in accordance with the romanization systems approved for U.S. Government publications by the U.S. Board of Geographic Names.

Headlines, editorial reports, and material enclosed in brackets [ ] are supplied by FBIS/JPRS. Processing indicators such as [Text] or [Excerpts] in the first line of each item indicate how the information was processed from the original. Unfamiliar names rendered phonetically are enclosed in parentheses. Words or names preceded by a question mark and enclosed in parentheses were not clear from the original source but have been supplied as appropriate to the context. Other unattributed parenthetical notes within the body of an item originate with the source. Times within items are as given by the source. Passages in boldface or italics are as published.

SUBSCRIPTION/PROCUREMENT INFORMATION

The FBIS DAILY REPORT contains current news and information and is published Monday through Friday in eight volumes: China, East Europe, Central Eurasia, East Asia, Near East & South Asia, Sub-Saharan Africa, Latin America, and West Europe. Supplements to the DAILY REPORTs may also be available periodically and will be distributed to regular DAILY REPORT subscribers. JPRS publications, which include approximately 50 regional, worldwide, and topical reports, generally contain less time-sensitive information and are published periodically.

Current DAILY REPORTs and JPRS publications are listed in *Government Reports Announcements* issued semimonthly by the National Technical Information Service (NTIS), 5285 Port Royal Road, Springfield, Virginia 22161 and the *Monthly Catalog of U.S. Government Publications* issued by the Superintendent of Documents, U.S. Government Printing Office, Washington, D.C. 20402.

The public may subscribe to either hardcover or microfiche versions of the DAILY REPORTs and JPRS publications through NTIS at the above address or by calling (703) 487-4630. Subscription rates will be provided by NTIS upon request. Subscriptions are available outside the United States from NTIS or appointed foreign dealers. New subscribers should expect a 30-day delay in receipt of the first issue.

U.S. Government offices may obtain subscriptions to the DAILY REPORTs or JPRS publications (hardcover or microfiche) at no charge through their sponsoring organizations. For additional information or assistance, call FBIS, (202) 338-6735,or write to P.O. Box 2604, Washington, D.C. 20013. Department of Defense consumers are required to submit requests through appropriate command validation channels to DIA, RTS-2C, Washington, D.C. 20301. (Telephone: (202) 373-3771, Autovon: 243-3771.)

Back issues or single copies of the DAILY REPORTs and JPRS publications are not available. Both the DAILY REPORTs and the JPRS publications are on file for public reference at the Library of Congress and at many Federal Depository Libraries. Reference copies may also be seen at many public and university libraries throughout the United States.